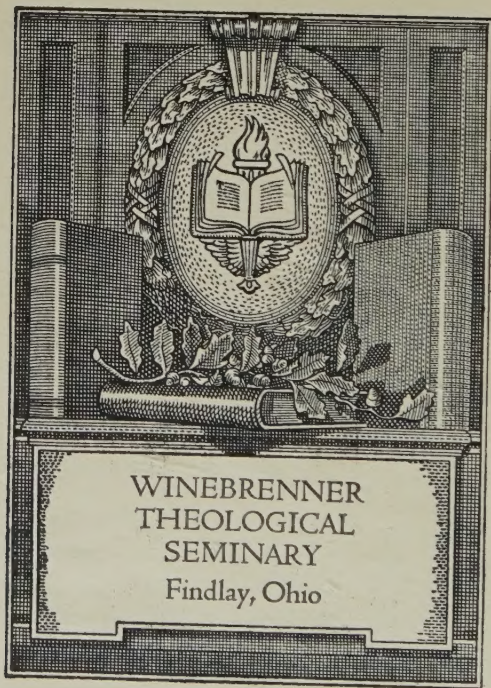


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365 DEVOTIONS
ON THE
NAMES OF OUR LORD

by
T. C. Horton

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The Wonderful Names
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1965

DEDICATED

To the Memory of

MR. LYMAN STEWART

the devoted Christian layman,
who was associated with the
author in the foundation and
building of the Bible Institute
of Los Angeles, investing a large
sum of money and a loving
heart fellowship in its work,—
a work which has been blessed
of God in the saving of souls
and the training of hundreds of
young men and women for
Christian work in this and other
lands.

FOREWORD

For many years, in meditating upon the names and titles of our Lord, I have longed to have the privilege of arranging them for daily contemplation by others, and at last He has made it possible for me to prepare this little volume.

In trying to determine how these should be arranged, it was finally decided to go straight through the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, and three hundred and sixty-five names and titles have been selected—one for each day in the year—with just a brief comment on each, sufficient to direct the thoughts of those who might wish to use them in their daily devotions to a contemplation of Him whose names are so varied and so significant that we are compelled to exclaim, "What Wonderful Names for our Wonderful Lord!"

As we turn the pages, these names sparkle with diamond rays as they flash upon us and we begin to see Him in all His matchless beauty and glory. How can anyone, whether within or without the fold of believers, doubt His Virgin Birth and Godhead when all through the Bible, in both the Old and New Testaments, the Holy Spirit has inscribed such a diversity of names to describe Him who is King of kings and Lord of lords? From the Cradle to the Cross, from the Cross to the Glory, and from His present Glory to His glorious Coming for His saints, He is the unchanging Lord of life and Lover of souls.

My own heart's desire has been intensified that I might feel the tender touch of the pierced Hand upon my brow, and pillow my head upon the bosom of Him who poured out every drop of blood in His veins that He might cleanse me from sin and claim me for His own, and I am sure that this longing will find a sincere response in the hearts of others. What a joy it will be to pray every day for other believers who may be meditating upon the same name of our adorable Lord, as together we seek to make Him more real to our own souls!

—T. C. H.

The Name Above Every Name

O WHAT is Jehovah El Shaddai to me?
My Lord, God and Saviour, Immanuel, He;
My Prophet, Priest, Sacrifice, Altar and Lamb;
Judge, Advocate, Surety and Witness, I AM;
My Peace and my Life, my Truth and my Way;
My Leader, my Teacher, my Hope and my Stay;
Redeemer and Ransom, Atonement and Friend;
He's Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End.

Yea more is Jehovah El Shaddai beside—
Avenger and Shepherd, and Keeper and Guide;
My Horn of Salvation, my Captain in war;
My Dayspring, my Sun and My Bright Morning Star;
My Wonderful, Counsellor, Wisdom and Light;
My Shadow by day, and my Beacon by night;
Pearl, Ornament, Diadem, Treasure untold;
My Strength and my Sun, in Him I behold.

All this is Jehovah Ropheka and more—
My Bread and my Water, my Dwelling, my Door;
My Branch and my Vine, my Lily and Rose;
Rock, Hiding Place, Refuge, Shield, Covert, Repose;
My sure Resurrection, my Glory above;
My King in His beauty, my Bridegroom, my love;
My All and in all in Christ Jesus I see,
For God hath made Him to be all things to me.
Now say to *thy* soul, "What is He to *thee*?"

—REV. JOHN H. SAMMIS.

The NAME of JEHOVAH *is* a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

Proverbs 18:10.



Wherefore, God also hath exalted Him, and given Him a NAME which is above every name:

That at the NAME OF JESUS every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth.

Philippians 2:9, 10.



Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other NAME under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Acts 4:12.

SUNDAY

(1)

The Seed of the Woman

*"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman,
and between thy seed and her seed." Genesis 3:15.*

THE third chapter of Genesis furnishes the foundation of the history of the world, the history of sin, and the historic promise of God concerning the coming of "*The Seed of the Woman*," who was to be also the Son of God, and to whom was committed the power to overcome Satan in the final conflict. The picture given to us is of *Satanic enmity*, the *Age-abiding battle* and the *Assured victory*. To Thee, Thou blessed "*Seed of the Woman*" we bow, as we open the *Book of books* and view Thee in the wonderful titles there accorded Thee. Amen.

MONDAY

(2)

The Angel of Jehovah

*"And the Angel of Jehovah called unto him out of Heaven
and said, Abraham, Abraham." Genesis 22:10.*

How significant is this second title of our Lord, and how significant is the incident which introduces it! In answer to God's command, Abraham had taken Isaac to Mount Moriah there to offer him as a sacrifice. But the "*Angel of Jehovah*" (the Son of God) appeared with the life-saving message "Lay not thine hand upon the lad,"—and this in the very Mount upon which afterwards He Himself was crucified as our Sin-offering! Oh, Thou Angel of Jehovah, how we rejoice in Thy message to Abraham which we love to apply to ourselves, "In blessing I will bless thee." Amen.

TUESDAY

(3)

Jehovah-Jireh

"And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh; as it is said, In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen."

Genesis 22:14.

THE scene here is heart-gripping. God had commanded Abraham to offer up his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice. What a test of faith! Abraham, ready to obey God, had selected the place, built the altar and Isaac was bound, ready for the altar, when "the Angel of the Lord" spoke out of Heaven to stay his hand, and as Abraham lifted up his eyes he saw a ram caught in the thicket, providing a sacrifice in place of Isaac,—a perfect picture of John 1:29: "Behold, the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." Jehovah-jireh ("the Lord will provide") was the name which Abraham gave to the place. The Lord has provided a Sin-offering for us, and He bore our sins in His own body on the Tree. *Let us bow our heads, lift our hearts to God and thank Him for the gift of His Son, our Sin-Purger. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(4)

Shiloh (Peacemaker)

*"The sceptre shall not depart from Judah * * * until Shiloh come." Genesis 49:10.*

HERE is another wonderful prophecy. "Shiloh" means "peace", and "Our Peace" is another title given to our Lord. He is the Peacemaker and there is not and can not be peace among the nations until the Prince of Peace comes, takes up the sceptre and rules the world. There can be no peace in the heart of any individual until the door is opened to the Peacemaker and He enters to dwell therein. Then we shall know the Peace of God that passeth all understanding which garrisons our souls. *Blessed Peacemaker, may Thy abiding presence comfort and sustain us in every testing, trying hour. We ask for Thy Name's sake. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(5)

The Stone of Israel

"But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the Stone of Israel)". Genesis 49:24.

JACOB is on his death bed. His thoughts are going back to his flight from the wrath of his brother Esau, when—as the sun went down—he took of the stones of the field for his pillow. And then he thought of all God had been to him since—a sure foundation upon which he had built his life. This expression—used first by Jacob—is repeated over and over again in the Word of God and finds an echo in our own hearts who have found in Jesus Christ a "foundation which standeth sure" against all the assaults of the enemy of our souls. *Oh, Thou who art the Mighty God of Jacob, the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel, grant to us the victory which is sure to those who trust Thee. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(6)

Manna

"And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna." Exodus 16:31.

WHAT a wonderful title to give to our Lord! Analyze it and think of Him,—white and pure from all sin, and sweet as the honey in the honeycomb, is He. The manna came down from Heaven, to supply food for Israel. Christ, the Son of God, came down from Heaven to feed the souls of men. His flesh is food indeed, and His blood is drink indeed! He alone can satisfy the longing soul and fill the hungry soul with goodness. *Lord, Thou who art the "Manna" come down from Heaven, let us look to Thee daily for soul-satisfying food. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(7)

Jehovah-Nissi

"And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovah-nissi. For he said, Because the Lord hath sworn that the Lord will have war with Amalek from generation to generation." Exodus 17:15, 16.

IT is necessary to read this entire seventeenth chapter of Exodus in order to get the background of this picture. Amalek is fighting Moses and his followers. The battle is fierce. Joshua is leading the army. When Moses lifted up his hand, Joshua prevailed. When Moses lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed, but Aaron and Hur "stayed" Moses' hands until the going down of the sun and Joshua won a great victory over Amalek. So "Moses built an altar and called the name of it Jehovah-nissi" (the Lord my Banner). The Lord Jesus Christ is *our* Banner. Let us daily lift Him up. He will give us perfect victory over every foe. *Lord Jesus, our Banner, we look to Thee today for victory over the world, the flesh and the devil, and thank Thee for it.*

SUNDAY

(8)

The Meat (Meal) Offering

"And when any will offer a meat (margin, "meal") offering unto the Lord, his offering shall be of fine flour; and he shall pour oil upon it, and put frankincense thereon." Leviticus 2:1.

THE whole chapter should be read to get the full illustration. Here we have a type of our Lord Jesus Christ in His perfect, sinless humanity. He is the "*Meal Offering*" in which there is no suggestion of blood, no sin-offering, but Christ in *His life on earth* that is represented—the holy, pure, perfect *Man*. This makes Him very near and very dear to us—a Man, a real Man, a sympathizing, loving Man, who came to earth for the one purpose, to prepare the Way for us. *Oh, Thou who art our "Meal Offering," impress Thine image upon the tablets of our memory. Amen.*

MONDAY

(9)

The Peace Offering

*"And if his oblation be a sacrifice of a peace offering,
* * * he shall offer it without blemish before
the Lord." Leviticus 3:1-5.*

THE picture of our Lord Jesus Christ as the Perfect Man in the Meat (or Meal) Offering, qualifies Him for the "Peace Offering". There *must* be a Peace Offering, for there is no peace to the wicked. There could be no way by which man could make his peace with God, so He Himself was the Peace Offering. How significant is this of the plan of God for bringing us into fellowship with Himself! How blessed to know that He is always longing for our love and fellowship! *Dear Lamb of God, our Peace Offering, may we cast ourselves by faith on Thy free grace which has opened the way for reconciliation and peace with Thee. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(10)

A Star

*"I shall see Him, but not now; I shall behold Him
but not nigh; there shall come a Star out
of Jacob." Numbers 24:17.*

THE star is a symbol of power, say the astrologers. Stars are in the Heavens. We must look *up* to see them. We wonder at the brightness and the multitude of them. The prophecy here is of intense interest and is illuminated by the story of the Star of Bethlehem, which pointed the way to the "Star out of Jacob" whose effulgent beams have shone into the hearts of millions who have rejoiced in the light and glory of His person and presence. *Oh, Thou who art the "Star out of Jacob," we pray that many of Thine own people, Israel, may see Thy light and love and obey Thee. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(11)

*A Sceptre**"A Sceptre shall rise out of Israel." Numbers 24:17.*

THE Sovereign holds the staff, or "Sceptre", the symbol of power. It shall be a *real* dominion. The truth *shall* prevail by the power of the Holy Spirit of God. It is *His* Kingdom, and the power and glory are all His. The kingdoms of this world are doomed. They must fall. But the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ must survive and dominate all other kingdoms and bring all to His feet; His plans are fully outlined in His Word, and we know that the day of His power is coming soon. *Lord Jesus, unto whom has been committed all power in Heaven and in earth, grant us Thy power to glorify Thy name this day. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(12)

The Captain of the Host of the Lord

*"As Captain of the host of the Lord am I now come.
And Joshua fell on his face to the earth
and did worship." Joshua 5:14.*

HERE is a real picture of a real manifestation of our Lord in human form with a drawn sword in His hand. These wonderful pictures are designed to give us a real conception of Christ. The "Angel of Jehovah" appeared many times. He appeared to Moses as a flame of fire. He appears here armed and ready for the conflict. Does this not suggest to us how He stands now in relation to His saints? Is He not with us in the defense of His own Word and work? Can we not depend upon Him? *Help us this day, O Thou "Captain of the Host", to stand firm for Thy truth, remembering that Thou dost carry a sword and that Thou hast never yet lost a battle. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(13)

Jehovah-Shalom

"Then Gideon built an altar there unto the Lord, and called it Jehovah-shalom." Judges 6:24.

GIDEON had destroyed the altar of Baal and Israel was oppressed by the Midianites. God sent a prophet in answer to their prayer who said, "The Lord is with you" and He was. To commemorate this event, Gideon built an altar and called it "Jehovah-shalom", (the Lord is my Peace.) Will Jehovah do for us today what He did for Gideon? Why do we doubt? Why do we dishonor Him by our lack of faith in His promises? Is not the cross of Christ the abiding testimony of His devotion? Let us keep in fellowship with Him and know that the peace of God garrisons our souls. *Lord Jesus, how we thank Thee that Thou art our Peace which passeth all understanding. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(14)

My Stay

"They came upon me in the day of my calamity; but Jehovah was my Stay." 2 Samuel 22:19 R.V.

WHAT a picture here of human hatred! Satan has always hated our Lord. His forces are always arrayed against Him. David had the same experience, but God delivered him and protected him. Jehovah was his Stay, and He is *our* Stay. He can reach down that strong arm of His and protect us and He loves to do it. Let us live in fellowship with Him, lean hard on Him, love Him, trust Him for all emergencies. *We rejoice in Thee, Thou Stay of David and our Stay. Hold us fast today. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(15)

My Lamp

*"For Thou art my Lamp, O Jehovah; and Jehovah will
lighten my darkness." 2 Samuel 22:29 R.V.*

A LAMP is for light, and light is what we must have,—sunlight by day, but lamplight by night. Christ is both. How dark it was before God said, "Let there be light!" and then flashed the light from Heaven to bring joy, comfort and warmth. What a transformation in human life when Christ comes to illumine it! That light will never go out. Day and night it is our privilege to live "in the light." *Jesus, our Royal Heavenly Light-giver, how we rejoice that Thou art the never failing lamp to lighten a darkened world. Shine in us and through us to bring light to the lost. Amen.*

MONDAY

(16)

The Rock of My Salvation

*"The Lord liveth; and blessed be my Rock; and ex-
alted be the God of the Rock of my salvation."*

2 Samuel 22:47.

DAVID had many enemies and so have we, but we can be victorious over them if we trust in Him who is "*The Rock of Our Salvation*". Our salvation originated in Him. Our salvation was manifested through Him. He girds us with strength for the battle of life and He stands by us as we stand by Him on the immovable, unchanging Rock. *Our blessed Lord, Thou who hast with sovereign grace placed our feet upon "The Rock of Our Salvation" may we be kept in close fellowship with Thee, this day. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(17)

The Light of the Morning

"And He shall be as the Light of the morning, when the sun riseth; even a morning without clouds." 2 Samuel 23:4.

THERE is the sunset. Then comes the evening star. Then the Heavens are filled with multitudes of shining stars, and our eyes are bathed with Heavenly light. Then they disappear as "The Light of the Morning" floods the earth with its glory. He who has never witnessed the sunrise has failed to behold the most wonderful and beautiful display of the Heavens. He who has failed to see in our Lord the "Light of Life" has lingered long in the darkness of a night filled with heavy clouds. *Lord, help us to view Thee in Thy wondrous glory, and every day walk with Thee in its light. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(18)

The Tender Grass

*"And He shall be * * * as The Tender Grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain." 2 Samuel 23:4.*

WHAT a wonderful comparison! "The Light of the Morning" and "The Tender Grass"! But how natural and logical. The rain has fallen in the night, the morning light has driven away the clouds, and now the tender grass springs up out of the watered earth. What could be more beautiful or suggestive than this? King David, when he spoke these words, was conscious of his own failure to meet the ideal, but he has the Divine assurance of the coming of One from his own house who would meet the requirements, and that one—Jesus! *Lord, give us a new conception of Thyself as beautiful "Tender Grass" upon which our souls may feed and feast. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(19)

The Daysman

"Neither is there any Daysman betwixt us, that might lay His hand upon us both." Job 9:33.

IN this chapter Job is recognizing God's righteous justice in dealing with man, and his need of a "Daysman",—an *arbitrator* who would have the power to lay one hand upon God and the other upon sinful man and be a mediator between them. But, thank God, He *has* provided such a "Daysman" in His own Son who having borne our sins on Calvary and satisfied God's justice, can open the way for us to approach Him and have the consciousness of the forgiveness of every sin and fellowship with Himself. *Our Lord, how we rejoice that Thou art our "Daysman". Lay Thy pierced hand upon our heads this day. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(20)

My Shield

*"But Thou, O Jehovah, art a Shield about me."
Psalm 3:3.*

DAVID was a man of war and appreciated the value of a shield against the assaults of the enemy. Listen to his testimony: "Thou art my Shield." What a note of confidence! He alone is sufficient to shield us from Satan and all his cohorts—foes within and foes without. It is in such conditions that we need to rejoice in Him who is *our* Shield. How He loves to answer our call and calm our troubled souls! Let us lift up our heads that we may catch His smile of love. *Dear Lord, we lay our heads upon Thy shoulder and rejoice in Thy protection. Shield us this day for Thy name's sake. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(21)

My Glory

*"But Thou, O Lord, art * * * my Glory."*

Psalm 3:3.

IN the midst of the danger which confronted him when he fled from Absalom, his son, and sought protection, David poured forth his soul in this expression of confidence in God. He could rejoice in the assurance of God's shielding power and could call Him "*My Glory*". The soul that has found refuge under the wings of our wonderful Saviour can also testify, "Thou art my Glory, now and forever." *Our blessed, unchanging Lord, we rejoice that we can say, "Thou art our Glory." Amen.*

SUNDAY

(22)

The Lifter Up of Mine Head

*"But Thou, O Lord, art * * * the Lifter up of mine head." Psalm 3:3.*

HERE we have a title of the greatest significance. David was sure of God's power and of His purpose to restore him to the throne of Israel, and God did restore him and exalted him above all the other kings of his day. Let us give Him His rightful place as our "*Glory*", and He will not fail to lift us up to the place designed for us for safety and for service. The thing is to know Him, the true God, and Jesus Christ whom He has sent, and He will do the "lifting up." *Lord, lead us to lay all at Thy feet and leave it with Thee to lift us to the place where Thou wouldst have us. Amen.*

MONDAY

(23)

*My Fortress**"Jehovah is my Rock and my Fortress." Psalm 18:2.*

THE Lord is not only a Rock upon which we may stand and meet every testing and every trial, but He is also a "Fortress"—a place where we are protected and safe from our enemies. We can hide in Him. We can rest on His bosom. No enemy can attack us when we are "Safe in the arms of Jesus; safe on His gentle breast." Let us learn how always to flee to Him in times of danger and distress, remembering that "The Name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runneth into it and are safe." *Help us, dear Lord, to avail ourselves of the privilege of resting in Thee, our "Fortress." Amen.*

TUESDAY

(24)

*My Buckler**"The Lord is * * * my Buckler." Psalm 18:2.*

WE are soldiers and we need a leader and armor in our life service for Christ. He is our Buckler. He will ward off the blows which the enemy of our souls aims at us. We need to have a more definite consciousness that, as His representatives, we are in danger all the time. No power on earth can *separate* us from Him, but we need to be girded every day. We need never go into the conflict unarmed if we will keep in fellowship with Him who is our Buckler and who loves to protect us. He will never fail us if we will only put our trust in Him. *Lord, put Thy protecting arms about us while we fight the good fight of faith in Thine army. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(25)

A Reproach of Men

*"But I am * * * a Reproach of men, and despised of the people." Psalm 22:6.*

IN Isaiah 49:7 it is written of our Lord, "One whom man despiseth, * * * whom the nation abhorreth", and this was literally true of Jesus of Nazareth as He walked the earth, and as He hung on the cruel cross: "And they that passed by reviled Him" (Matthew 27:39). Even in our own day and in our own land, our Lord is demeaned by men, denied and repudiated as the Son of God. *Lord Jesus, may it never be that we shall have any fellowship with those who make Thee a reproach, but may we always honor and glorify and magnify Thy holy name. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(26)

My Shepherd

"Jehovah is my Shepherd." (Psalm 23:1.)

HOW we all love this name of our blessed Lord! It is so dear to us. Those of us who were trained in Christian homes have never forgotten and never can forget how dear it was to us in our childhood, and how it has grown more and more so as the days have gone by. How we should pity those who have never been able to say out of their hearts, "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want." How He loves to feed His own with the Bread of Life! What green fields and still waters there are for us as we follow Him! *Dear Shepherd of the sheep, lead us today in the paths of righteousness and guide us to Thy glory. Amen.*

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FRIDAY

(27)

The Strong and Mighty Jehovah

"Who is this King of Glory? Jehovah, strong and mighty, Jehovah mighty in battle." Psalm 24:8.

WHAT an inspiring title is this for our Lord! As we allow our thoughts to linger for a moment, we are meditating upon Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Saviour, and our heart is pulsing with renewed joy as we think of Him, our Leader, the *"Strong and Mighty Jehovah"*. His power is past all human comprehension. He speaks—and it is done! He commands the stars—and they obey. He can conquer every foe, for He is "mighty in battle." *We bow to Thee, Thou Strong and Mighty Jehovah. We will obey Thy command and Thy call to service. Lead Thou us to victory. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(28)

King of Glory

"Who is this King of glory? Jehovah of hosts, He is the King of glory." Psalm 24:10.

THE Lord Jesus Christ is the Author and Sustainer of all the forces of the universe (Col. 1:16), the Ruler of all worlds, but He is waiting for the time when He shall be manifested "in His glory, and shall sit upon the throne of His glory, (Matt. 25:31). When that day comes none shall need to ask "Who is this King of Glory?" for then "to Him every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father." *Lord of lords, King of Glory, we bow to Thee today and long for Thy soon coming to rule and reign. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(29)

My Strong Rock

*"Bow down Thine ear to me; deliver me speedily; be
Thou my Strong Rock, for an house of defense
to save me." Psalm 31:2.*

DAVID is in trouble. He wants deliverance and he calls upon the Lord for help. How natural it is! How like our own experiences! This verse is the opening of a great prayer. Turn to your Bible and read it through. Meditate upon it. Were it not true that in the Lord Jesus Christ we have an "anchor of the soul both sure and steadfast" to whom could we turn for refuge and deliverance? Where could we find rest? Praise His Name, we can come to Him and pray; *Dear Lord, we have anchored our faith upon Thee as Our Strong Rock. Grant us Thy promised deliverance. Amen.*

MONDAY

(30)

The Rock That Is Higher Than I

*"From the end of the earth will I cry unto Thee, when
my heart is overwhelmed; lead me to the Rock
that is higher than I." Psalm 61:2.*

READ the rest of this heart cry of David to the Lord and then you will know why he reached out to the Rock that was higher than himself. The lesson here is simple. We *must* lay hold of something or someone which is substantial and will stand the test. The burden of Israel was weighing heavily upon David, as the burden of the churches oppressed Paul (2 Cor. 12:28.) But all of these burdens are small when compared to those which were laid upon our Burden-bearer, upon whom we can rest all our cares for He careth for us. *Oh, Thou Rock of Ages, we come to Thee and lay all our burdens down and give Thee thanks for bearing them for us. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(31)

The King's Son

"Give the king thy judgments, O God; and thy righteousness unto the King's Son." Psalm 72:1.

HERE is a wonderful picture of the glory of God's kingdom. It is a righteous kingdom, and that righteousness is also the righteousness of *"The King's Son,"* our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. How we should honor Him who is to be King of kings and Lord of lords! How graciously He has clothed us with His own righteousness and given us the promise that we should reign with Him for a thousand years! *Blessed Lord, we bow at Thy feet and worship Thee, as we longingly look for the day when we shall be with Thee and like Thee. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(32)

Showers Upon the Earth

"He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass, as showers that water the earth." Psalms 72:6.

THIS is a Messianic prediction concerning our Lord. How refreshing is the suggestion,—*"Rain Upon the Mown Grass," "Showers That Water the Earth!"* How He loves to pour out the showers of blessing upon us! If we are ready He is ready! Does He not say in Isaiah 55:10, 11 that His Word shall be as the rain that cometh down from Heaven that watereth the earth, making it bring forth and bud that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater? Showers of blessing are waiting for us if we are out in the open where they can fall upon us. *Lord, Thou who art the Water of Life, guide us by Thy Holy Spirit to look for the showers of blessing that our parched and thirsty souls may be refreshed. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(33)

The Shepherd of Israel

"Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; Thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth." Psalm 80:1.

TO whom could this title refer save to Jesus Christ? We read in Ezekiel 34:23: "And I will set up one Shepherd over them, and He shall feed them; even my Servant David." Our Lord was of the family of David and He is the *true* David and the *true* "Shepherd King." He has all authority and all power, and He feeds the flock and guards them in His own sheepfold from the wolves. How does He feed us? With His own blood with which He purchased us. (John 6:55). Trust all to Him. Listen to His call. Feed from His hand and drink of the living water which He offers. *Thou Shepherd of Israel teach us day by day to listen to Thy tender voice and feed in Thy pastures. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(34)

My First Born

"Also I will make Him my First-born, higher than the kings of the earth." Psalm 89:27.

ISRAEL is called "a first born son" in Exodus 4:22, and in Jeremiah 31:9 we read "I am a Father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born", but Jesus Christ the Righteous is the *Only Begotten* of the Father,—the only true "*First Born*", higher than the kings of the earth, the First and the Last. How marvellous is the thought that of such an One we are a part,—by faith! Through the eternal years we will be one with Him and will share in His glory, the glory as of the Only Begotten of the Father! *Dear Lord, help us to live in the consciousness of all it means for us to be a part of and partner with Thee, the First Born. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(35)

The Headstone of the Corner

"The Stone which the builders refused, is become the Headstone of the corner." Psalm 118:22.

THE corner stone is the foundation of the building. Safety is secured by it. The Jews were God's chosen "builders", but they refused to be guided by Him and refused the "Headstone" which He had chosen. "No king but Caesar" would they have, but only the Lord Jesus Christ could unite all believers and cement them into one Temple of Worship. They said "no", but God said "yes", and the "Stone which the builders refused" is and will be throughout eternity, *"The Headstone of the Corner."* How glad we are, our Blessed Lord, that we have acknowledged Thee, and that our faith is firmly fixed on Thee. We adore Thee! We worship Thee! Amen.

SUNDAY

(36)

My Goodness

*"Blessed be Jehovah * * * my Goodness."*

Psalm 144:1, 2.

THERE is one thing that every one of us can truthfully say, "There is no goodness in us by nature." If there is any goodness in us, it is Himself who dwells in us. "Oh, how great is Thy goodness which Thou hast laid up for them that fear Thee." "Let Thy saints rejoice in Thy goodness." Paul tells us that the "fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness" and our Lord has promised that goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our life and we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. What a wonderful promise from our wonderful Lord! *Thou, who art our Goodness, help us to trust and follow Thee all the days of our earthly life. Amen.*

MONDAY

(37)

My High Tower

*"Blessed be the Lord my strength * * * my High Tower, * * * who subdueth my people under me." Psalm 144:1, 2.*

NOT only is our Lord Jesus the "Headstone of the Corner" but He is also the "*High Tower*" which is built upon that immovable Corner Stone. It is on the lofty hills that the castles were built, so He who is our "High Tower" is high and holy, but always accessible, and in fellowship with Him we can see the whole world and its need and then the light of God's eternal purpose, which "He purposed in Christ Jesus" shining above the stars. Oh, the glory that is ours! *Blessed Lord, keep us above the turmoil, yet with a heart of love for those who walk in darkness. Amen*

TUESDAY

(38)

He in Whom I Trust

*"Blessed be the Lord my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight: * * * He in whom I trust." Psalm 144:1, 2.*

WHAT a combination of names and titles are found in these two verses, some of which have been considered elsewhere in this volume. But read them again. We sing and say "He is everything to me" and so He is. Why? Because every day of our lives we face circumstances which compel us to turn to Him, and in Him we find every need supplied. We trust in Him because we have tested Him. If you have not, then do so now. "Trust in the Lord * * * and verily thou shalt be fed." Are you a parent? If you are, then you love to be trusted. So our Lord loves to be trusted. *Our loving Lord, help us to cast all our care upon Thee and trust Thee wholly from this time. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(39)

Excellent

"Let them praise the name of the Lord; for His name alone is Excellent; His glory is above the earth and the heaven." Psalm 148:13.

PRAISE ye the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights! Praise ye Him, sun and moon! Praise Him all ye stars of light! Praise Him, ye heaven of heavens, and ye waters that are above the heavens! Praise ye the Lord! Praise Him in His sanctuary! Praise Him in the firmament of His power! Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord! Praise ye the Lord! *Blessed Lord Jesus, help us to know Thee as the "Excellent One" and use our voices and our lives to praise Thy name. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(40)

Wisdom

"The Lord by Wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath He established the Heavens."
Proverbs 3:19.

HERE is a title of profound and far-reaching significance. There can be no doubt that "Wisdom" as used here refers to our Lord, the Second Person of the Trinity, for He Himself identified Himself with "Wisdom" in Luke 11:49; and John 1:3 and Col. 1:16 tell us that "all things were created by Him." Surely He understands all things for He created all things, and He understands *us*! He will supply all our need, if we will but "draw near with true hearts, in full assurance of faith." *Lord Jesus, help us to be wise enough to seek Thy Wisdom. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(41) 4

Understanding

"Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it." Proverbs 16:22.

GREAT is our Lord and of great power; His understanding is infinite" says the Psalmist. His works and His ways are not always understood by our feeble intellects, but "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter" is His promise. He is working out His great program for a lost world. Trust Him. Live in fellowship with Him. In His own good time He will come and have us with Himself, and then "shall we know even as also we are known." *Lord Jesus, keep us like little children in our attitude toward Thee, as we depend upon Thy "Understanding." Amen.*

SATURDAY

(42)

A Friend That Sticketh Closer Than a Brother

"There is a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24.

WHAT a tie this that binds us to Christ, closer than any earthly relationship could ever be! He cleaves to us through all earthly experiences. We are bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh. We are *one* with Him. There is no power on earth or in Heaven which can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. We need to sense this fact and then seek to live in the consciousness of it. Live to love Him. Live to honor Him. Live to glorify His name. *Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with love for our Lord Jesus, and guide us in seeking to bring others into blessed fellowship with this "Friend that Sticketh Closer than a Brother." Amen.*

SUNDAY

(43)

*Ointment Poured Forth**"Thy Name is as Ointment poured forth."**S. of S. 1:3.*

DOES this not instantly bring to our minds Mary and her alabaster box of ointment, the fragrance of which has come down to us through the centuries? Is the name of Christ as precious ointment upon us? Do others recognize it? Are we seeking to live in such fellowship with Him that the fragrance of His life is manifested in our lives?

"Rich the roses' perfume, but richer far than they,
The countless charms that round Thy person play;
That Name alone more fragrant than the rose,
Glads everyone on whom its fragrance flows."

Dear Lord, may our lives be perfumed by Thy presence this day. Amen.

MONDAY

(44)

*A Bundle of Myrrh**"A Bundle of Myrrh is my well beloved unto me."**S. of S. 1:13.*

MYRRH was one of the ingredients in the holy anointing oil which was used to anoint Aaron and the priests. Our Lord was "anointed with the oil of gladness" and He is the joy of His own. When we come to God the Father we must come in the Name of Jesus Christ, because that Name is to God a "sweet-smelling savour." Marvel of marvels, that we, poor undone sinners, should find through the blood shed on Calvary access to the Throne, and a hearty, heavenly welcome into fellowship with Himself! *Lord Jesus, we seek Thy presence with holy desire for Thy pierced hand upon our heads this day. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(45)

A Cluster of Camphire

"My beloved is unto me as a Cluster of Camphire in the vineyards of En-gedi." S. of S. 1:14.

HERE is a wondrous vision of what Christ is and what He should be to the church. What a sorrow it is that so many Christians have only a conception of Christ as their Saviour from sin, but fail to recognize that in Him is *everything* that the soul can ever need. He is the Incomparable Christ,—in beauty, in love, in power, in fellowship, in sacrificial service! Why do we make so little of Him? Why not give Him the supreme place in our hearts? *Thou blessed Lord and Saviour, we pray that we may live in the consciousness of the fullness of Thy unchanging love for us. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(46)

The Rose of Sharon

"I am the Rose of Sharon." S. of S. 2:1.

THE "Rose of Sharon" was, in reality, just a flower of the field; not distinguished; a lowly but a lovely flower. How marvellous that the Holy Spirit, then, should apply this title to our Lord who "made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant." Paul said of himself, "I am less than the least of all saints," and exhorted the believers to "let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." A true, Christ-like humility should characterize Christians and it does those who are nearest to His heart. "Seekest thou great things for thyself? seek them not," but seek to reflect the life of "*The Rose of Sharon.*" *Thou blessed Rose of Sharon, we bow to Thee with grateful hearts and crave for a life like Thine. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(47)

*The Lily of the Valleys**"I am * * * the Lily of the valleys." S. of S. 2:1.*

HERE we have another name of our Lord which depicts Him in His humility. What a contrast between the lily of the valley and other flowers! Its home is in "the lowly places" like Him who said "I am meek and lowly in heart." The ideal followers of Christ are not among those who seek "high places" but among those who, like Paul, can say, "God forbid that I should glory save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us, too, sit under the shadow of that Cross and look upon the "Lily of the Valleys" as we praise His blessed Name. *Thou "Lily of the Valleys," how gladly we come to Thee, and ask that we may live with Thee,—in the valley. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(48)

*Him Whom My Soul Loveth**"I will seek Him whom my soul loveth." S. of S. 3:2.*

THIS is the bride's dream. Her Beloved is absent. She seeks Him. How perfectly natural and real this is. She had dreamed she was seeking and found not. Now she awakes and searches for Him with all her heart—and she finds! "He satisfieth the longing soul." How we pity those who once knew the Lord but have wandered away. No rest for their restless, sin-sick souls until they find their rest in Him. His arms are always open for saint and sinner. "Come unto Me" He says "and ye shall find rest to your souls." *Lord Jesus, how gladly we respond to Thy call and pillow our heads upon Thy gentle breast. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(49)

*The Chiefest Among Ten Thousand**"My Beloved is * * * the Chiefest among ten thousand."**S. of S. 5:10.*

HERE is a challenge from the Word of God. Has the world ever produced His equal? Have any ever equalled Him in wisdom, or in deeds of kindness, or in love for the lost? No, never! He is indeed "The Chiefest Among Ten Thousand", yea, the chiefest in all the world and in all ages. The appeal to the hearts of all men is "Come, see a Man who has told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?" The Heaven from which He came, His heart, His life, His cross, His resurrection,—all testify to the truth that He is "God manifest in the flesh." *We bow to Thee, Thou "Chiefest Among Ten Thousand," this day and call upon our souls and all that is within us to magnify Thy name. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(50)

*Altogether Lovely**"Yea, He is altogether lovely." S. of S. 5:16.*

THROUGH all the ages since He walked this earth, generation after generation, wherever He has been made known to men, this testimony has been borne to Him, "He is *Altogether Lovely*." He is the Ideal. As a Child, as a Man, as a Teacher, as a Prophet, as an Example, as a Sacrifice,—He is perfect. He is without blemish. "In Him is no sin" but "He was manifested to take away our sins." How we wish that every person in the world could know Him and worship Him in the beauty of holiness. *Dear Lord, Thou Altogether Lovely One, help us to do our best to make Thee known to a lost world. Amen.*

MONDAY

(51)

*The Branch of the Lord**"In that day shall the Branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious." Isaiah 4:2.*

THE Divine and human in Christ can not be separated. "I and my Father are One" says Christ in John 10:30, attesting to His Deity. In Jeremiah 23:5 we read: "I will raise unto David a Righteous Branch, and a King shall reign," and this speaks of His humanity. Now add to the title "*A Righteous Branch*" the words "beautiful and glorious" and you have a perfect picture of Him who, as our High Priest, could be touched with the feelings of our infirmities, and yet who was "God manifest in the flesh." Great is the mystery of godliness! *How we thank Thee, Thou "Branch of the Lord" that we can come close to Thee at any time. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(52)

*Jehovah of Hosts**"And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy is Jehovah of hosts: the whole earth is full of His glory." Isaiah 6:3.*

THE repetition of the word "holy" is in accord with other portions of the Word of God. The Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—is also seen here, for they are "Holy, holy, holy" and they are *one Person* whom we worship and adore. Wherever Jehovah of hosts is really known and truly acknowledged there goes up from the heart of the believer the echo of this doxology of praise to Him. Listen to the words of Paul in Hebrews 7:26: "For such an High Priest became us who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners and made higher than the Heavens." And, again, in Ephesians 1:18: "That we may know * * * what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power." *Dear Lord Jesus, "Jehovah of hosts," we echo this prayer this day. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(53)

*A Sanctuary**"And He shall be for a Sanctuary." Isaiah 8:14.*

A SANCTUARY is a place of refuge. "Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations" we read in Psalm 90:1. "Thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the Most High, thy habitation" (Psalms 91:9) and again in Ezekiel 11:6 "And I will be to them a little Sanctuary." What a joy to know that in every time of trouble we may find "A Sanctuary" in Him whose arms are always outstretched, where we may find rest and peace and where we may worship Him. *Blessed Lord, Thou Lover of our souls, may we find our refuge in Thee. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(54)

*A Great Light**"The people that walked in darkness have seen
A Great Light." Isaiah 9:2.*

THE days have been dark in this poor, sin-cursed world ever since the clouds covered the Garden of Eden. The children of men need light. God is good and has made provision for their need, but they reject His provision. They want to produce their own light, but it is impossible. There is a true Light to which all must come or else be left forever in the darkness. It is left to us who are His representatives to walk in this Light and to bring others to it, also. God has pity for the lost. Why do not we have? *Blessed Light of the World, help us to bring the Light to darkened, blinded souls. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(55)

Wonderful

*"For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given.
And His name shall be called Wonderful."*

Isaiah 9:6.

WE have here the most wonderful revelation of our wonderful Lord in the whole Bible,—five names in one verse! We will view them one at a time. Our faith is strengthened in meditation. The Fatherhood of God is revealed here,—One God, One Father, One Lord Jesus Christ. Meditate again for a moment on the word "Wonderful"! and rejoice with joy unspeakable that this name has been given Him. *Dear Lord, Thou who art "The Wonderful One" and yet who took upon Thyself the form of a little child, help us to avail ourselves of the wonders of Thy gracious provision for all our needs. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(56)

Counsellor

*"His name shall be called * * * Counsellor."*

Isaiah 9:6.

WE can come to our Lord Jesus Christ, the Wonderful One, as our "Counsellor." We can depend upon His unfailing love and wisdom. But we must come as little children unto Him who loves us as His own purchased possession and keep in daily fellowship and communion with Him. Human wisdom will fail us, but He never fails. How great and grave is our mistake when we depend upon our own wisdom or the wisdom of others when He is waiting and longing to supply our need. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God who giveth to all men liberally * * * and it shall be given him." *Lord Jesus, our "Counsellor," forgive us for failing to look to Thee and depend upon Thee for daily advice and counsel.*

SUNDAY

(57)

*The Mighty God**"His name shall be called * * * the Mighty God."**Isaiah 9:6.*

WHO is this "Mighty God"? The very Son of God Himself. He is mighty, yea, He is Almighty. The service which He must render could not be wrought without Almighty power and authority. David says of Him "Thy throne, is forever and ever." Jeremiah says of Him, "Jehovah our Righteousness." He is mighty to save, strong to deliver, always the same, and always accessible to the humblest believer. Let us remember this when we come to Him in praise, or prayer or worship. *Oh, Thou Mighty God, we come to Thee to acknowledge Thy authority and to crave Thy blessing. Amen.*

MONDAY

(58)

*The Everlasting Father**"His name shall be called * * * the Everlasting Father."**Isaiah 9:6.*

HE is "The Mighty God." He is also "The Everlasting Father." He created man. He Himself became a Man. He is now the Glorified Man. He holds the sceptre. He looks down upon us day by day. Yet He lives in us. He has the heart of a Father. His protecting love is over us. There are many changes in us; many changes in our condition and circumstances; but *no change in Him!* He is "the same, yesterday, and today and forever," the "Everlasting Father." Let us honor Him as good children should and give Him the highest place. *Oh, Thou Everlasting Father, we are so glad we can come close to Thee as Thy dear children. Give us our daily bread. Guide us and guard us till Thou dost come. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(59)

The Prince of Peace

*"His name shall be called * * * the Prince of Peace."*

Isaiah 9:6.

WHAT a joy it is to know that He is what we long for most of all in this sinful, wicked, restless world—"The Prince of Peace." He came to bring peace (Luke 1:79; 2:14), and when He went away He said to His disciples "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give unto you." Could there be any gift of greater value to men? Oh, that all might come to know Him and His peace-giving power. *We come to Thee, Thou blessed Prince of Peace, and accept from Thee the peace of God which passeth all understanding. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(60)

The Light of Israel

"And the Light of Israel shall be for a fire, and His Holy One for a flame; and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day." Isaiah 10:17.

A NEW name for the Wonderful One! David says, "The Lord is my Light and my Salvation" and so He is. He is the Light that flashed into the darkness of our sin-stricken souls and brought us pardon, peace and power. Let us walk in the consciousness of that unchanging Light. Let our hearts, also, go out in longing that those who are "lightless" and "lifeless" may be brought to His feet that they may walk with us in the Sunshine Road. *Dear Lord, we recognize in Thee the Light which shall burn up all our dross, so that we may walk in communion and fellowship with Thee every day. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(61)

A Rod Out of the Stem of Jesse

"And there shall come forth a Rod out of the stem of Jesse." Isaiah 11:1.

WHAT a strange prophecy concerning the Messiah! "There is hope of a tree that is cut down, that it will sprout again" and so it was with the "Stem of Jesse", which must mean the "House of David" from which our Lord sprang. What wonders confront us in the Book of books! "The Stem" bore fruit and in "the fulness of time God sent forth His Son, made of a woman," to fulfill the prophecy and "redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." *Our loving Lord, Thou knowest our thoughts as we meditate upon Thee at this time. May the Holy Spirit enlighten and strengthen our faith. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(62)

A Branch Out of His Roots

"A Branch shall grow out of his roots." Isaiah 11:1.

HE is not only a "Rod" but a "Branch." As you meditate upon this verse you are compelled to think first of the root, then of the shoot, (or "rod"), pushing its way up through the earth, and then a branch, growing in strength; an illustration of the human life of our Lord Jesus growing up in the midst of Israel, developing from babe to boy, from boy to man, then taking up His ministry that He might fulfill the prophecies of the Book and bear the sins of the world. The fruitage of "The Branch" has been world-wide and will be age-abiding. *O, Thou Mighty One, how we thank Thee that Thou didst bear our sins upon the Tree, making it possible for us to become a part of "The Branch." Amen.*

SATURDAY

(63)

The Root of Jesse

"And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek; and His rest shall be glorious."

Isaiah 11:10.

How the names and titles given to our Lord multiply as we go through the prophecy of Isaiah! In the first verse of this chapter we viewed Him as "A Rod" and "A Branch", and now He is called "The Root." Thank God, there is coming a time when our Lord's rest *will* be glorious. Not now, but in the good, glad day when He comes to gather His people—Jews and Gentiles—to Himself. The root is not dead, but will spring up and bring forth an ensign for the people. *Dear Lord Jesus, we are grateful that through Thee, as "The Root of Jesse" the door is open for all, both Jew and Gentile, to enter the gates of Heaven and enjoy eternal rest and peace with Thee. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(64)

An Ensign of the People

"And in that day, there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an Ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek." Isaiah 11:10.

THERE is a glad day awaiting us when our Lord shall see of the travail of His soul and be satisfied, and "The Root of Jesse" shall stand as an "*Ensign of His People.*" We cannot tell *when* that Golden Age will come, but we can do as we are bidden and hasten it by magnifying His name to a lost world, and thus helping to complete the Church which is His body. Do we realize what this means to our Lord, and do we long for that day to come? *Dear Lord, Thou Glorious "Ensign of the people", we plead for Thy grace and favor as we give ourselves to the task which Thou hast committed to us. Amen.*

MONDAY

(65)

My Strength and My Song

"I will trust and not be afraid; for the Lord JEHOVAH is my Strength and my Song. He also is become my salvation." Isaiah 12:2.

HERE is a name of glorious victory! He who is our "Strength" is also our "Song", and our "Salvation." He is *everything* to us. Do we appreciate it? Are we living in the atmosphere of it? We are pilgrims on life's journey and we have varied experiences from day to day, but we can always, if we have been washed in His precious blood, sing our songs of praise and thanksgiving. *Thou who art our "Strength and our Song," keep us in constant, joyful fellowship with Thee. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(66)

A Nail Fastened in a Sure Place

*"And I will fasten Him as a Nail in a sure place."
Isaiah 22:23.*

WHAT a strange declaration is this! How wonderful are the ways and the methods used by the Holy Spirit to make Christ real to us! A nail is something, of iron or steel, which can be driven into a wall, and can be used to fasten things together. What does the Book say Christ did with our sins? That He blotted out "the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross." (Col. 2:14). Our sins were fastened "in a sure place" for they were nailed with Him to the cross, and thus the sin question was settled forever. Hallelujah! *Our wonderful Saviour, we can never cease to praise Thee for the prints of the nails in Thy hands. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(67)

A Glorious Throne

"And He shall be for a Glorious Throne to His Father's house." Isaiah 22:23.

WE have here the suggestion of "the Father's house", which is Heaven, and the "Glorious Throne" which that house contains, and that "Throne" is our Lord Jesus Christ, for "throne" is often used as a symbol of royalty and regal authority. We read in Revelation 4:2, 3 of a "throne which was set in Heaven and One sat on the throne. And He that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone; and there was a rainbow round about the throne." It is before this Throne that we pay our devotions and present our requests (Heb. 4:16; 8:1) in perfect assurance that we will "obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." *Oh, Thou Glorious One, accept our adoration and put Thy pierced hand upon our heads this day. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(68)

A Strength to the Poor and Needy

"For Thou hast been a Strength to the Poor, a Strength to the Needy in his distress." Isaiah 25:4.

"I AM poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me; Thou art my help and my deliverer" says the Psalmist. "My God shall supply all your need" says Paul, and He will for His strength is "made perfect in weakness." His arms are stretched out for the distressed, and we can always find rest and strength in them. Listen to His words of comfort in Psalms 121:5, 6: "The Lord is thy keeper; the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day nor the moon by night." He longs to be our "Strength" and to supply all our need through riches of glory by Christ Jesus. *We hear Thy call, blessed Lord, and come quickly and gladly to Thee for strength for this day. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(69)

A Refuge From the Storm

*"For Thou hast been * * * a Refuge from the storm,
* * * when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm
against the wall." Isaiah 25:4.*

ARE we who are His dear ones subject to the storms of life? Yes, for so was He. Did His disciples suffer from the storms of hatred and persecution? Yes, and some even yielded up their lives. There is no evading the storms of life. "All they that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution," and the clouds grow heavier as the tribulation days confront us. But *He* is "A Refuge from the Storm" and a very present help in trouble. He cannot fail. We could never fully realize the value of His presence, of His love and power, were it not for the storms of life. *Thou, who art our sure Refuge, help us to flee to Thee in every storm of life. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(70)

A Shadow From the Heat

*"For Thou hast been * * * a Shadow from the heat."
Isaiah 25:4.*

WHAT Divine compassion is suggested here! The burning heat that pierces to our very heart as Satan uses all of his powers to overcome us,—and then, suddenly, the "Shadow" that separates us from the burning blast and our heart is cooled and restful! What has occurred? Our Lord has revealed Himself and in the shadow of His wings we rejoice and are comforted. We hear His voice speaking to us, and, lo, it is the cool of the evening! *Blessed Lord, overshadow us with Thy presence today, and let the cool breezes from the secret place of the Most High refresh our souls. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(71)

The Rock of Ages

"Trust ye in the Lord forever; for in the Lord JEHOVAH is everlasting strength." (Margin, "The Rock of Ages"). Isaiah 26:4.

How our hearts beat high with joy as we contemplate this title "*Rock of Ages*", for such is the phrase in the original Hebrew. We feel like shouting out loud, "Praise the Lord who is our Eternal Rock!" We cannot always trust in people. Sometimes even our dearest friends fail us. We cannot trust ourselves. We are human and weak. But, praise His name, we can "trust in the Lord forever." Have we that trust? God forgive us if we have not, and let us from this moment fix our faith on the immovable "*Rock of Ages*." *Lord Jesus, Thou "Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee." Amen.*

MONDAY

(72)

A Crown of Glory

"In that day shall the Lord of hosts be for a Crown of glory." Isaiah 28:5.

WE should read the first five verses of this chapter in order to get the proper vision of the glorious scene portrayed. Uplifted pride is to be trodden under His feet. Those who are always seeking to live in the limelight will have small place then. "Seekest thou great things for thyself? Seek them not." Let us seek *His* glory who is the All-Glorious One. Let us defend His name *now*. He is our Righteousness and our Strength. He is our All-in-all. Lift up your eyes and behold Him! Lift up your voice and praise Him! *Oh, Thou Glorious One, we do worship and adore Thee, and give Thee all praise. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(73)

A Diadem of Beauty

*"In that day, shall the Lord of hosts be * * * for a
Diadem of beauty." Isaiah 28:5.*

WORDS are but poor things to convey to our minds the glories that await us "in that day" when we shall gaze upon our Lord as a "*Diadem of Beauty*." What will it be to see Him then, He whose life here upon earth was spotless and beautiful, whose character was flawless! How can we meditate upon that glorious scene beside which all other scenes of beauty and splendor are colorless, without longing for that day to come when we shall see Him, and—wonder of wonders,—we shall "be like Him!" *Oh, Lord Jesus, our hearts are going out in longing and anticipation. May we seek daily to bring others to Thee that they too may share in that Crowning Day. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(74)

A Foundation

*"Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in
Zion for a Foundation, a Stone." Isaiah 28:16.*

THE moral condition of Israel is revealed in the verses which immediately follow this verse, and as we read we cannot but compare it with present day conditions. What privileges we have had, handed down to us by our forefathers, yet how little real progress has been made, either morally or spiritually. All human effort will fail. One thing and only one thing will avail; recognize Him as the Foundation upon which to build your life structure. It is impossible to build a house in which God can dwell save upon this foundation, for "other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." *Oh, our Lord, help us to build on Thee, as Thou hast commanded, resting there in faith. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(75)

A Tried Stone

*"Therefore, thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in
Zion for a foundation, * * * a Tried*

THIS "Stone" has been tried and tested and has stood unchanged and unchangeable. He was "in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Heb. 4:16). The church is "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief Corner Stone." We, too, are tried and tested as to our faith, but if our faith is fixed upon the "Tried Stone" as revealed in His Word, we shall never fail. *Oh, Thou "Tested and Tried Stone", our Lord, we trust in Thee and joyfully commit our all to Thee. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(76)

A Sure Foundation

*"Therefore, thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in
Zion * * * a Sure Foundation." Isaiah 28:16.
Stone." Isaiah 28:16.*

THERE is but one "Sure Foundation" upon which we may build for eternity—the Eternal Son of God. He would be a foolish man who would attempt to construct an expensive house upon miry clay, but many, many men are careless and indifferent when it comes to their spiritual building. They build upon all sorts of foolish conceptions and think that it doesn't matter. How sad it will be for them when the rain descends, the floods come, the winds blow and beat upon such a house, for it will surely fall. *Help us, dear Lord, to seek to warn men to build upon "The Sure Foundation." Amen.*

SATURDAY

(77)

A Covert From the Tempest

"And a Man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a Covert from the tempest." Isaiah 32:2.

THERE never could be but one Man to whom this title could be applied, and that is, the Man Christ Jesus. We must face the storms of life, and we are defenseless in ourselves, but we can always snuggle up close to Him who has said, "Come unto me, and I will give you rest." He will shelter us from the storms of temptation which threaten to overwhelm us, for "In that He Himself hath suffered, being tempted, He is able to succor them that are tempted." Only trust Him and give Him the joy of ministering to His own trusting ones. *Thou blessed "Covert from the Tempest," cover us with Thy wings, and keep us ever close to Thy wounded side. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(78)

As Rivers of Water in a Dry Place

*"And a Man shall be as * * * "Rivers of water in a dry place." Isaiah 32:2.*

THERE is a thirst in us which is more than mere desire. It is a thirst which is inspired by a deep down longing and which the waters of this poor world can never satisfy. But a "Fountain has been opened * * * for sin and for uncleanness" (Zech. 13:1) and, praise His holy Name, we can drink of that fountain and find cleansing for our sin-stained souls. But after we have satisfied our own burning thirst, what about the thirsty children of men? Shall we not tell them of Him who is the Water of Life and an Overflowing River? *Blessed Lord, how comforting it is to know that in Thee we can find the source of supply for every need. Amen.*

MONDAY

(79)

The Shadow of a Great Rock

*"And a Man shall be as * * * the Shadow of a great rock in a weary land." Isaiah 32:2.*

OUR Lord Jesus is not only a "Hiding Place from the Wind", but "*The Shadow of a Great Rock*" in a weary land. We have here a picture of the East—the sun shining and its hot rays wearying the traveller, looking and longing for a place of shade and rest. There are pleasures in the sunlight, but also perils. This world is a weary land. We are here and we must face conditions as they are, not as we might wish them to be. What a comfort it is to know that in the midst of all the sorrow and suffering, the trials and disappointments, we can find peace and security in the secret of His presence. *Give us the wisdom, dear Lord, to hide ourselves under Thy shadow from the burden and heat of the day. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(80)

The King in His Beauty

*"Thine eyes shall see the King in His beauty."
Isaiah 33:17.*

WE hesitate to attempt in a few words to bring a picture of "*The King in His Beauty!*" Though the Bible is filled with pictures of Him, yet a thousand more would not meet the need. The very thought of seeing "*The King in His Beauty*" stirs our hearts with longing for the "Day of all days" when we shall see Him, the Perfect One, reigning in regal splendor over the whole universe. Words cannot describe that scene, and our vision will depend upon the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. *Dear Lord, reveal to us Thyself as the One altogether lovely, day by day, and let us live in the expectation of seeing Thee and being like Thee. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(81)

*Our Lawgiver**"For the Lord is our * * * Lawgiver." Isaiah 33:22.*

TRULY, the Lord is "*Our Lawgiver*" for He is the author of all law. He made the first law: "In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die,"—a simple, definite law. When Adam and Eve violated that law, they suffered the penalty, "dying they began to die." God never changed that "law of sin and death," but He made a new law, "The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus" which makes us "free from the law of sin and death," so that we who were born sinners—hopeless, helpless—receiving Christ as Saviour are, through that new law, freed from sin and death and made eternal children of God. *Thou blessed "Lawgiver" we thank Thee for that wonderful new law, and for our salvation through obedience to it. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(82)

Lord Jehovah

"Behold, the Lord Jehovah will come as a Mighty One, and His arm will rule for Him; behold His reward is with him, and His recompense before Him."

Isaiah 40:10 (R.V.).

A WONDERFUL prophecy that has been fulfilled in part and will be completely fulfilled in the Second Coming for His own. Our Lord says in Revelation 22:12: "Behold I come quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be," and He will surely reward every saved soul who has served Him. Throughout eternity. He shall see of the travail of His soul and shall be satisfied. Let us take up our cross and follow Him wherever He leads, that we may "receive a full reward." *Lord Jehovah, we worship Thee. We covet the privilege of serving Thee that we may have the joy of fellowship with Thee here and hereafter. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(83)

The Everlasting God

"Hast thou not known? has thou not heard? The everlasting God, Jehovah, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary; there is no searching of His understanding." Isaiah 40:28.

HERE Israel is bidden to abide in Jehovah as the Everlasting One who will strengthen them for service. There is no change in Him, for He is "the same, yesterday and today and forever." Our hearts are heavy sometimes because we do not understand His seeming indifference to our prayers, but we must never have a question mark concerning His doings. We must trust Him. Our faith must be unwavering. We are dear to Him as the apple of His eye. Let us live close to Him. Let us glorify Him and abide in His promises. *Forgive us, Lord, Thou who art "The Everlasting God," if we ever hurt Thy heart by our lack of faith in Thee. Let us trust Thee like little children. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(84)

Mine Elect

*"Behold * * * mine Elect, in whom my soul delighteth." Isaiah 42:1.*

"BEHOLD!" The inspired writer would draw the attention of the whole world, Jew and Gentile. He has a new revelation. The verse preceding (39:29) says of the nations: "They are all vanity; their works are nothing." The curtain was drawn and the faithless exposed. Israel had not been true. But, praise His name, He has laid in Zion "a Chief Corner Stone, ELECT, precious." "*Mine Elect* in whom my soul delighteth" says the Father of the Son, and it was *His* delight to do the Father's will. "Wist ye not" said He, "that I must be about my Father's business?" *Dear Lord, we recognize Thee as "The Elect One" who has promised to empower us for service. Help us to be about Thy business and glorify Thy name this day. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(85)

A Light of the Gentiles

*"I the Lord have called Thee in righteousness, and will * * * give Thee * * * for a Light of the Gentiles." Isaiah 42:6.*

IN accordance with the righteous purpose of our God before the foundation of the world, Jesus Christ was appointed to be "A Light of the Gentiles." He is called our "Salvation," our "Life," our "Peace," and was assigned to be the Representative of the Godhead to take upon Himself the burden of our sins, thus opening the way for both Jew and Gentile to be brought into the light and saved through His grace. Now the Light must shine through us who are walking in that Light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death. *Thou who art the "Light of the World," grant that we may ever walk in that Light and seek to bring others to Thee. Amen.*

MONDAY

(86)

The Polished Shaft

"And He hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of His hand hath He hid me, and made me a Polished Shaft." Isaiah 49:2.

IN Hebrews the Word of God is described as "sharper than a two-edged sword" and it is true that the words of Jesus pierce the hearts of men as no other words, and we need to use that Sword more frequently and definitely. Here is something, however, that is of greater power than a sword, "A Polished Shaft"—keener than a sword, smooth, polished, fashioned to sink deeper than the sword! There is no tickling of the ear in His message, but sweet, strong, piercing, penetrating words of life. Listen to them: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on Him." *Help us, Lord, to honor Thy Word and faithfully use it, for Thy glory. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(87)

The Holy One of Israel

*"Thus saith the Lord * * * kings shall see Thee and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the Lord that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and He shall choose Thee." Isaiah 49:7.*

THE Lord Jesus Christ—the promised Messiah—was "Israel's Holy One." They rejected Him, crying "Away with Him; we will not have this man to rule over us," but they *must* have Him and the whole world must yet be ruled by Him. Kings and princes must bow to Him. He was true to Israel, though they crucified Him. He has been and is true to the Gentiles. He is true today,—the Holy One who stands before the people and bids them come to Him for forgiveness of sin and for the joy of a new life. *Our Holy One, help us to reveal Thee to a lost world as the only Saviour that we may persuade men to bow to Thee as both Saviour and Lord. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(88)

A Tender Plant

"For He shall grow up before Him as a Tender Plant." Isaiah 53:2.

IT will be well to read and meditate upon this entire chapter and note the contrasts. He was a "Tender Plant," i. e., a twig or sprout pushing its way up through the dry ground. Nothing to attract attention—just a Jewish boy, the offspring of a despised nation. Is it not so today? Some are able to see the wonders of His grace and glory, while others despise Him, and reject Him, as did the Jews. He *was* the "suffering Messiah." He *will* be the "King of Glory" to whom every knee shall bow and every tongue confess. *Oh, Thou "Tender Plant," how we adore Thee who art more than all the worlds to us. We kiss Thy feet and worship Thee. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(89)

A Root Out of a Dry Ground

*"For He shall grow up before Him * * * as a Root out of a dry ground." Isaiah 53:2.*

IN Isaiah 11:10 He is called "The Root of Jesse." Here He is called a "Root Out of a Dry Ground." He has "no form or comeliness that we should desire Him,"—born in a humble home, lived as a carpenter's son,—but from Him has come all the hope, comfort and joy that this poor old world have ever known. "Behold, how great a matter" a "Dry Root" has produced! Do you know Him? Do you love Him? Are you a fruit-bearing branch of the "True Vine?" *Blessed Lord, how we, who are Thine own, adore Thee! Help us to make Thee known to the children of men. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(90)

A Man of Sorrows

"He is despised and rejected of men; a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." Isaiah 53:3.

HE was despised (Isaiah 49:7) and even "a worm" (Psalm 22:6). It is so yet. How few in all the world really love and honor Him! Let us ask ourselves the question: Are we willing to be classed with Him—despised and rejected of men? Are we willing to be one with Him in the fellowship of His sufferings? Will we follow Him gladly "without the camp" and rejoice in the privilege? Will we let the world know that this "Man of Sorrows" is our Lord whom we love and worship? *Dear Lord, Thou didst bear it all for us. We count it a joy to follow in Thy footsteps. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(91)

A Righteous Servant

*"By His knowledge shall My Righteous Servant
justify many; for He shall bear their
iniquities." Isaiah 53:11.*

WHAT a title for our Lord—a "Servant" yes, but a "Righteous Servant." If He had not been absolutely righteous He could never have atoned for our unrighteousness. He became a Man for the one purpose of becoming a Servant and bearing our iniquities. Do we seek to understand what that meant to Himself and what it means to us who have believed in Him? We are justified through His sacrifice for us. That justification gives us rights and titles which we could never have purchased with the wealth of the universe. *He is satisfied with the results of His sacrifice. Are we? How we thank Thee, Thou "Righteous Servant" for imparting Thine own righteousness to us. Help us to glorify Thy name by telling of Thy finished work to a lost world. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(92)

My Maker

*"For thy Maker is thine Husband; Jehovah of hosts
is His name; and the Holy One of Israel is thy
Redeemer." Isaiah 54:5 R.V.*

THE Lord Jesus Christ is the "Maker," the "Redeemer" and the "Husband" of the Church. Hosea 2:19 says, "And I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in loving-kindness and in mercies." What marvels are wrought in connection with the regeneration of sinful man! How little we emphasize these great truths! He loves us, He cares for us. What joy awaits us when He comes and takes us to the mansion which He has been preparing for us. *We look to Thee, our Maker and our Husband, and ask Thy help that we may honor Thee by lip and life. Amen.*

MONDAY

(93)

*The God of the Whole Earth**"The God of the whole earth shall He be called."**Isaiah 54:5.*

Is He not the Creator of the whole earth, of the stars of heaven, and of *all* things? Could we live and breathe and have our being without Him? Is He not the Ruler of the whole earth and did He not make all the laws which we are forced to obey or suffer the consequences of their violation? Yes, there is but *one* God for Jew and Gentile. How grateful we should be that He has given to us His Word wherein He has revealed Himself as a God of love who paid the penalty of our sins and died that we might live. *Our gracious God, keep us under the shadow of Thy wings this day. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(94)

*A Witness to the People**"Behold, I have given Him for a Witness to the people."**Isaiah 55:4.*

OUR Lord Jesus Christ is "A Witness." Yes, He gives a witness to a lost world, and also to us who are His own. He witnessed to the love of God which gave Him, the only begotten Son, for the sins of the world. And He is the "True and Faithful Witness" (Jer. 42:5). He witnesses to the truth of God's holy Word. His testimony is without a flaw. His faithfulness is an example for us. We should also be faithful in our testimony. Every step of His life was in fulfillment of prophecy as was also His resurrection. *Our Faithful Witness, help us to bear a loyal and loving testimony of Thy grace and favor to us. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(95)

A Leader

*"Behold, I have given Him for * * * a Leader
* * * to the people." Isaiah 55:4.*

THE Leadership of Christ is unexcelled. He is the "Captain of our salvation" and He has given to us the high and holy privilege of following Him and fighting under His banner. David was a loyal leader and faithful to his followers, but Jesus Christ is "great David's greater Son" and He leads on to certain victory, through green pastures, beside the still waters, to the summit of the mountain, through the valleys, to the Rock that is higher than we could ever ascend in our own strength. He loves to hold us by the hand and lead us on to joy and peace. Shall we not say "Where He leads, we will follow?" *Blessed Lord, our Leader, have Thine own way with us and lead us today. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(96)

A Commander

*"Behold, I have given Him for * * * a Leader
and Commander to the people." Isaiah 55:4.*

A STUDY of the history of nations reveals to us many great commanders. Napoleon was an example of such, and the Old Testament tells us of many great men whom God raised up for His people, but not one could rank with God's own Son who is the Great Commander. Life is a battle. We must be led in it either by Christ or by Satan. We who are called by His name, have acknowledged Him as our Commander. He teaches us how to put on the armor; how to carry the sword; how to face the foe; how to make the charge! "What He says we will do; where He sends we will go." There can be no defeat if we obey His commands. *Lord Jesus, our Great Commander, our ears are open to Thy call. Lead Thou on to victory today. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(97)

The Redeemer

*"And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them
that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord."
Isaiah 59:20.*

THIS blessed prophecy and promise was fulfilled in the birth and life of Jesus Christ. (Read the succeeding verse for further light on this.) We are looking upon the One who hung upon the cross and poured out every drop of blood to make possible our redemption, with which comes a NEW COVENANT in which we have the unchanging promise of His abiding presence in the believer until the church is complete and he comes for us. Look up to Him today. Glorify Him by a steadfast faith in all His promises. *Blessed Redeemer, how we rejoice in Thy redemptive power and long for Thy soon coming. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(98)

The Mighty One of Jacob

*"Thou shalt know that I the Lord am Thy Saviour
and Thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of
Jacob." Isaiah 60:16.*

HERE is a wonderful promise, emphasizing a mighty power. Had the Scripture said, "The Mighty One of Abram or the "Mighty One of Isaac" we would not have been surprised, but Jacob was not an ideal servant of the Lord. His battles and troubles were with himself, as ours so often are; but the Lord had redeemed him and had blotted out as a "thick cloud" his sins. (Isa. 44:21-23). He is just the same today, and He who was "The Mighty God of Jacob" has blotted out *our* sins with His own precious blood. *Blessed, unchanging One, we praise and magnify Thy Name. We worship Thee and long for continual fellowship with Thee. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(99)

The Everlasting Light

"The Lord shall be thine Everlasting Light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended." Isaiah 60:20.

LONG years have passed since this promise was given. The Lord Jesus Christ came to this earth and went back to the Father, but the complete fulfillment of this prophecy still awaits us. We look forward with joyful anticipation to the dawning of that day which shall know no night, and for the personal presence of Him who is the Light of the world. His light shall not only shine in our souls, but through us, for we shall see Him and be like Him. Is it any wonder that we eagerly long for that glorious day? *Dear Lord, let the light of Thy glorious Word shine in and through us as we wait for Thy coming. Amen.*

MONDAY

(100)

The Angel of His Presence

"In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel of His presence saved them." Isaiah 63:9.

How the Lord loved Israel! As the "Angel of the Lord" He ministered to them and saved them from their enemies when they were oppressed and abused. We read in Judges 10:16 that "His soul was grieved for the misery of Israel," and He is afflicted in the affliction of His people. It is so today. Many of the leaders of the professing church are denying Him, and many professed followers of Christ are going with the leaders. He is distressed. His heart is hurt. How sad it is! Let us be true to Him and defend Him. *Lord, may Thy presence be with us in every trial and may we, in every time of trouble and testing, look to Thee for help. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(101)

Our Potter

*"But now, O Lord, Thou art our Potter; and we are
all the work of Thy hand." Isaiah 64:8.*

IT is a good thing to commit such a verse as this to memory, for we need a deeper consciousness of our own insignificance and of our absolute dependence upon the Lord. Paul says: "Hath not the Potter power over the clay?" and David says: "Oh, Lord, forsake not the work of Thine hands." He is our Maker; He is our King; He is our Redeemer. We are compelled to cry to Him for deliverance in times of distress. Why not surrender all we are and have to Him and let Him mould and fashion us after His good pleasure, giving to Him all the glory for whatever may eventuate from our lives? *Lord, we are but clay. Have Thine own way with us as seemeth good to Thee and take all the glory. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(102)

Balm of Gilead

*"Is there no Balm in Gilead? * * * Why then is not
the health of the daughter of my people
recovered?" Jeremiah 8:22.*

THE old world grows worse and worse. "The whole head is sick and the whole heart faint" (Isaiah 1:5). Where will we find a "Physician of Souls?" Can any of the cults cleanse the soul from sin and impart life and spiritual health such as the children of God must have? To whom shall hungry lost souls go for comfort, for rest, for healing? Is there a "Balm in Gilead?" Yes! He who was sent to "bind up the broken-hearted" can give peace and rest to the weary, sin-sick soul, and He longs to do it. *Dear Lord, we come to Thee in behalf of sin-sick, dying souls, that Thou mayest pour out upon them Thine healing balm. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(103)

The Hope of Israel

"O, the Hope of Israel, the Saviour thereof in time of trouble, why shouldest Thou be as a stranger in the land?" Jeremiah 14:8.

THE promised Messiah was the "Hope of Israel" and He is the Hope of all believers. Without Him how hopeless we are! "Christ in us" is the "hope of glory." Paul, writing to Timothy, says: "I am an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope." The coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is the hope of the church and our eyes are fixed upon the Heavens and our ears tuned to catch the sound of the shout with which He will come. A fixed hope—a faith-giving hope—a joy-giving hope—is this *our* hope, which is "fixed on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness?" *May the daily cry of our heart be, "Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly." Amen.*

FRIDAY

(104)

Jehovah-Tsidkenu

*And this is the name whereby He shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.
(Hebrew: Jehovah-tsidkenu.) Jeremiah 23:6.*

WE were helpless, hopeless sinners, but "Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth" (Romans 10:4). "The righteousness of the law is fulfilled in us who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit." Christ has done it all, and we are therefore sure of the future. "Henceforth there is laid up for us a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous Judge shall give" at that day "to all who love His appearing." Do *we* love His appearing? Are we praying for Him to come? Then this crown awaits us. *Lord Jesus Christ, Thou who art our Righteousness, come quickly. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(105)

A Resting Place

*"My people hath been lost sheep; their shepherds have caused them to go astray * * * they have forgotten their Resting Place." Jeremiah 50:6.*

THIS is surely an appropriate title for our Lord, and it has been embodied in a well known hymn "I found in Him a Resting Place; and He hath made me glad." There is no rest for the weary, sin-stricken souls of men save in the arms of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. There are many false shepherds in these days who lead God's sheep into the pitfalls of sin and suffering, but He is always saying "Come unto Me, and I will give you rest." Listen to His voice, answer the call, and abide in Him, for He longs to have fellowship with His sheep. *Good Shepherd, help us to rest our souls in Thee today. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(106)

My Portion

"Jehovah is my Portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in Him." Lamentations 3:24.

JEREMIAH was a God-chosen and God-ordained man and was honored with a peculiar fellowship with God. But the door is open to *every* child of God to have fellowship with Jesus Christ if he wills to accept it. "Behold I stand at the door and knock," He says. How strange it is that He has such difficulty in getting us to open the door to Him, and to understand what He is and what He wants to be to us. "The Portion" is Himself. The Giver is more than the gift. Let us seek to avail ourselves of the privilege of claiming Him as "*Our Portion.*" *Loving Lord, may we live in the consciousness of the wonderful fact that Thou art "Our Portion" forever. Amen.*

MONDAY

(107)

A Plant of Renown

"And I will raise up for them a Plant of Renown, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more." Ezekiel 34:29.

HAVE you ever had the privilege of seeing a great plantation? What a variety is to be found there—the great woods, the springs of sparkling water, the rippling brooks! There the birds sing and the ground gives forth its increase. There is peaceful rest. But the Church, of which Jesus Christ is the Head, is the greatest of all "plantations." There will be found the fruits of the Spirit and the melody of voices united in praises to Him who loved them and gave Himself for them. Himself and His own are united in a great "Plant of Renown" of His own planting. *Thou blessed "Plant of Renown," how we thank Thee that we have been grafted into Thee. Keep us close. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(108)

Jehovah-Shammah

"And the name of the city from that day shall be, The Lord is there. (Hebrew; Jehovah-Shammah)." Ezekiel 48:35.

A GOLDEN message from the prophet Ezekiel! The City of Jerusalem shall be called "The Lord is there." He was there, but, alas! alas! "He came unto His own and His own received Him not." He was crucified there. But He will be there some good glad day in the future. The Jews are there now in growing numbers. Some of His own dear ones are there telling the old, old story. But still this title is true today, for He is in the heart of every believer. He will never leave us nor forsake us. Let your soul rejoice as you give Him a daily welcome. *Blessed Lord, how we praise Thee that Thou art in our hearts, and we pray that Thou wilt keep us in fellowship with Thee. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(109)

A Great Mountain

"And the stone that smote the image became a Great Mountain, and filled the whole earth."

Daniel 2:35.

WHAT a theme! What a picture of our Lord in a few words! "A Stone" appears, "cut out of the mountain without hands" which smites the image and the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver and the gold become "like the chaff of the summer-threshing floor" and in their place rises "A Great Mountain." Kingdoms rise and fall. Nations perish. From the manger of Bethlehem comes a Child, with a sword in His hand (Matthew 10:34), who will yet conquer all His enemies and sit upon the throne of His father David and rule and reign forever. *Oh, Thou Great and Mighty One, we bow to Thee; we worship Thee; we cry to Thee to come quickly. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(110)

The Ancient of Days

"I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of Days did sit, whose garment was white as snow." Daniel 7:9.

THE Bible is full of wonderful visions of our Lord, but none more wonderful than this of the "Ancient of Days." We have it again in Revelation 1:14: "His head and His hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and His eyes like a flame of fire." His dominion is "an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away" and with the "brightness of His coming" He shall destroy Satan, the enemy of God and man. "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive riches and wisdom, power and glory!" *Oh, Thou blessed Ancient of Days, our eyes are fixed upon the heavens in glad anticipation of that day when we shall see Thee and be like Thee. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(111)

The Prince of Princes

*"A king of fierce countenance shall stand up * * * against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand." Daniel 8:25.*

READ the whole eighth chapter of Daniel carefully and get the vision that is there given of the power of sin and the patience of the "Prince of princes." The subtlety of Satan and the weakness of humanity is demonstrated, but our hearts are comforted by the conscious knowledge of the final victory of the Prince of princes over all the powers of evil. In the glory we shall behold Him and until then we link ourselves by faith with Him and await the glorious consummation. *How grateful we are, Thou mighty Prince of princes, that we are in fellowship with Thee and will be with Thee in the promised victory. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(112)

Messiah the Prince

"From the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks." Daniel 9:25.

THIS is a prophecy relating to Christ's first coming. The date was fixed, and the conditions made definite,—the Jews in the land, the "Child" to be born, and v. 26 tells us of His death. But—He is the Messiah, the Prince! What a wonderful Book is the Bible! What a host of names and titles it contains for our Lord! They are not *all* in one book, but all in *The Book*. How our souls should be knit with His as we view Him day by day in the different aspects suggested by these names, and then remember that He is "the same, yesterday, today, forever." *We bow to Thee, our Messiah and our Prince, and pour out our souls to Thee in adoration. Keep us close. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(113)

The Hope of His People

"The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake; but the Lord will be the Hope of His people." Joel 3:16.

BLESSED Lord, Thou who art the Hope of Israel and OUR Hope,—blessed Hope,—our expectation centers in Thee. Our hope for happiness is in Thee. Thou art the HEART of our anticipation, for we long to see Thee—Thy pierced hands and feet! Thou art our HELP in every time of trouble,—unfailing help! We lean upon Thee. Thou art our HOME for we can find no place of rest apart from Thee. Thou art our HOST, and we know that Thou wilt be at the door to welcome us. Thou art our HEAVEN, for there could be no Heaven without Thee. Dear Lord, our hope is built on nothing less, than on Thy blood and righteousness. Hold us always to this Hope. Amen.

MONDAY

(114)

Ruler in Israel

*"But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah * * * out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is to be Ruler in Israel. Whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2.*

THE ages past and the ages to come are linked in Him. He always has been and always will be a Ruler. He was promised—He came! He is promised—He will come! We see Him as the Babe of Bethlehem, the Carpenter, the Crucified Christ. Now, by faith, we see Him as the eternal Ruler over all the worlds, yet with scarred hands and feet. With Him we shall rule and reign throughout the countless ages of eternity, Hallelujah! Our hearts go out to Thee, our Everlasting Ruler. We are Thine. Thou art ours. Have Thine own way in our hearts and lives. Amen.

TUESDAY

(115)

A Stronghold

*"The Lord is good, a Strong-hold in the day of trouble; and He knoweth them that trust in Him."
Nahum 1:17.*

HE is good to "them that *wait* for Him." (Lamentations 3:25.) He is good to them that *trust* Him. (Psalm 37:3). He is good to them that *acknowledge* Him. (Proverbs 3:6). He is our Strength in every time of trouble. He is empowered with wisdom for every emergency. We are safe in His Stronghold, which is Himself. He loves to cover us with His wings. Rest in the Lord. Nestle close to Him. Pour out to Him your heart's desires. Never doubt, always believe. *Oh Thou "Stronghold," hold us fast in Thine own arms of love and may we abide in Thee by faith. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(116)

The Desire of All Nations

"And I will shake all nations, and the Desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts." Hagai 2:7.

NO one could contemplate this title and truly consider its meaning without having a deep consciousness that it centers in a Person, and that Person Jesus Christ our Lord, for He is the only One who could and who will meet this desire. The nations have been shaken and they are now filled with unrest. Every thinking person must be aware that peace is the desire and the need everywhere, Who could bring this peace save the Prince of Peace Himself? He *may* come soon, for "in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." *Hear the prayer that ascends to Thee today, Thou who art our heart's desire, and come soon that that desire may be satisfied. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(117)

A Wall of Fire

"For I, saith Jehovah, will be unto her a Wall of Fire round about, and I will be the glory in the midst of her." Zechariah 2:5 R.V.

THE Lord is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12:29). As wax melts before the flame, so do the wicked before His presence. What power there is in a wall of fire. Have you ever seen it sweeping through the forests or the fields? None can stand before it. No enemy can approach one who is surrounded by a "wall of fire." Our Lord is omnipotent and the wall which He throws about us is as high as Heaven. We are secure in Him. Never hurt His heart by question marks as to your safety. *Loving Lord, we commit ourselves in fullest confidence to Thy kingly care and keeping this day. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(118)

My Servant, the Branch

*"Behold, I will bring forth my Servant, the BRANCH."
Zechariah 3:8.*

THERE is a time and place for everything in God's plan and purpose, and there is a title for every aspect and characteristic of our Lord which reveals and magnifies His position and power. In the title of "The Branch" there is a prophetic suggestion which finds its fulfillment in the four Gospels,—Matthew corresponding to "The Branch of David" (Jeremiah 23:5); Mark, to "My Servant, the Branch" as quoted above; Luke, to "The Man, whose Name is the Branch" (Zechariah 6:12); and John, to "The Branch of Jehovah" (the Son of God), (Isaiah 4:2). *Oh, Thou Servant of man, help us to live the life that will enable us to trust in and depend on Thy service for us. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(119)

The Man That Is My Fellow

"Awake, O sword, against my Shepherd, and against the Man that is my Fellow, saith the Lord of hosts." Zechariah 13:7.

WHAT a startling cry from the Lord of hosts! Turn now and read Matthew 26 and 27 and you have before you the interpretation of this wonderful prophecy. "Smite the Shepherd," and He *was* smitten and the sheep were scattered. He is the *Good Shepherd* and He gave His life for the sheep. He is "Jehovah's Fellow"—His *equal*—His *companion*—for "all that dwell upon the face of the earth shall worship Him" (Rev. 13:8). Do we recognize what it means to be a fellow-worker with "God's Fellow?" *Help us, Thou Mighty One, to lay at Thy blessed, pierced feet our all and do our best to glorify Thy name. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(120)

King Over All the Earth

*"And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives * * * And the Lord shall be King over all the earth; in that day shall there be one Lord, and His name one." (Zechariah 14:4, 9.)*

WE could wish for space to print in full these seven verses, but turn to your Bible and read them, noting some of the significant phrases: "The Day of the Lord cometh;" "His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives;" "the light shall not be clear nor dark;" "at evening time it shall be light." "That day" will be a day of wonders for the world, a day of sadness for the unsaved, but a glorious day for Himself and for His own. Satan will be no longer the prince of this world, but will be in prison, and He whose right it is will be reigning. How our souls should rejoice at the joyful prospect! *Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly. Amen.*

MONDAY

(121)

The King

"And it shall come to pass that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem, shall even go up from year to year to worship The King, the Lord of hosts." Zechariah 14:16.

THE seventeenth verse says that failure to keep the Feast of Tabernacles at Jerusalem shall be followed by a plague. God demands unity of worship. There is but one object of worship—The King of Glory—whose names we have been studying. The Spirit of Christ must dominate in this worship. Real worship can only be given with love, joy, peace in our hearts, the Holy Spirit controlling and directing and every heart beating in harmony with The King's heart. *Our glorious King, we bow in Thy presence and worship Thee. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(122)

The Messenger of the Covenant

"The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the Covenant, whom ye delight in; behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts." Malachi 3:1.

HERE is an answer to the last verse of the second chapter; "Where is the God of judgment?" He will come in due season. He will come as a "thief" (1 Thess. 5:2) bringing the message of judgment for those who have rejected the demands of His law, and who have refused to receive Him, believe Him, acknowledge Him, follow Him and serve Him by spreading the good news of salvation through faith in the crucified, risen Christ, the Son of God. What a covenant! What a messenger! And what an eternal joy awaits those who *do* receive Him and obey His call! *Thou Messenger of the Covenant, we acknowledge Thy message to us, and worship Thee. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(123)

A Refiner and Purifier

"And He shall sit as a Refiner and Purifier of silver; and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness." Malachi 3:3.

WHAT an appropriate title for our Lord! Moses called Him the "Leader;" Isaiah portrays Him as the "Sufferer," the "Conqueror," the "Comforter;" Daniel proclaims Him as the "Prince," but Malachi represents Him as the "Refiner and Purifier." The very statement settles forever the fact of the need of all the sons of men. Nearly two thousand years have passed since the Son of God died on the cross. Is the world better? Has human nature improved? No! Christ bore our sins in His own body on the tree and when He has changed these vile bodies into the likeness of His own glorious body, then, and only then, we will be rid of the dross of sin forever. Hallelujah! *Blessed Refiner and Purifier, we glorify Thy name. We trust Thee to hold us fast forever. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(124)

The Sun of Righteousness

"But unto you that fear My name, shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings." Malachi 4:2.

HE whom we love is our "Sun or Righteousness." We have no righteousness of our own, but He who was the sinless Son of God took our place on Calvary, and we have been made the righteousness of God in Him (2 Cor. 3:9). He is the Light of Truth, which the world needs. The sun shines in His brightness and glory. In all things He must have the pre-eminence. We can bask in the sunshine of Himself, our Righteousness, whose light shall never fail but will shine forever and ever. *Son of God, our Sun of Righteousness, shine Thou in our hearts all the days. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(125)

*Jesus Christ**"The book of the generation of Jesus Christ."**Matthew 1:1.*

HERE is the first title given to our Lord in the New Testament—Jesus Christ. This chapter contains a host of names, covering three periods of fourteen generations each, but *one Name* stands out like a radiant star to lighten all the others; *one Person* to whom all must render allegiance,—Jesus (Saviour) Christ (the Anointed One). At His feet every knee shall bow in heaven and on earth. *Let us pour out our hearts to Him in praise and in prayer this day, and every day. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(126)

The Son of David

"The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham. Matthew 1:1.

OUR Lord was a lineal descendant of David, the king. This entitled Him to the right of sovereignty over David's land, and when He was here among men, we are told, there was no other claimant to the throne of David. Herod sought to destroy the Child-King, Jesus, but Egypt was chosen as a refuge place for Him. The heart of Herod was like the hearts of all the children of men who will not have Him to rule over them. He was bearing us upon His heart, as a Child, for He is the same "yesterday, today and forever," and He is our refuge now. *Jesus Christ, Son of David, may our hearts be linked up with Thy great heart always. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(127)

Son of Abraham

*"The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, * * *
the Son of Abraham. Matthew 1:1.*

THREE titles in one verse, "Jesus Christ—Son of David—Son of Abraham." Abraham was the head of the covenant nation. God had given to him the promise that in his seed should all the nations of the earth be blessed. Jesus submitted to the Jewish law in righteousness. He lived as a Jew, He preached to the Jews. He died for the Jews as well as for all people. "So then, they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." (Galatians 3:9.) How wonderful! God manifested in the flesh as Abraham's seed and yet the One who made the promise to Abraham! *Oh, Thou promised Son of Abraham and Son of God, our Saviour, hold us fast in faith in Thy Word. Amen.*

MONDAY

(128)

Jesus

*"Thou shalt call His name JESUS; for He shall save
His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21.*

OVER seven hundred times in the New Testament is this name—used "Jesus," (Joshua). How familiar we are with that name! Joshua of the Old Testament, who saved Israel by leading them through the River Jordan, fought their battles, and was steadfast in his allegiance to God and His people. He was a type of our Lord who is our Joshua; who fights our battles for us; who is our Leader, our Protector, our Saviour! Who will never cease His lordship until He has us safely in the sheepfold on the other side. Hallelujah, what a Saviour! *This day, Thou Saviour of our souls, in whom we are separated for eternity, guide us by Thy Holy Spirit to the praise of Thy grace. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(129)

Emmanuel

*"Behold, a virgin * * * shall bring forth a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel." Matthew 1:23.*

THIS was the prophecy of Isaiah 7:14: "Therefore, the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel." "Emmanuel" (God with us)! What a wonderful God and Saviour He is and He is with us as He promised in Matthew 28:19, 20: "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the age." Let us sense His presence and make Him real. Walk, talk, live with and love Him more and more as the days go by. *Lord Jesus, we know that Thou dwellest in us. May we enjoy Thy fellowship today. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(130)

A Governor

*"And thou Bethlehem, * * * out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule My people, Israel."
Matthew 2:6.*

BETHLEHEM of Judea! A little village, twice highly honored! The birthplace of David, king of Israel, and the birthplace of Jesus the Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords! Who could visit this Land of Promise and not desire to see this city of cities, the place where Jehovah enthroned in human form and lying in a manger gazed into the face of the virgin Mary, His mother. The government shall be upon His shoulders and He will reign in righteousness. Blessed day! *We pray for its soon coming, and ask for grace that we may hasten it. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(181)

The Young Child

"When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was." Matthew 2:9.

A STAR in the East led the Wise Men to a Star that shall outshine all the stars of Heaven. Look at this Young Child! Hold fast your attention as you gaze upon His face, lying there, His eyes looking into your own inquiring eyes. Visualize, if you can, God manifested in the flesh for you. God—the Young Child! The Creator of all things! Before whom are thirty years of human life in which He will toil with His fellow men. Mystery of mysteries! *Oh, Thou wonderful One, as we bow before Thee today, help us to discern something of Thy devotion for the sons of men. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(132)

A Nazarene

"And He came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene."

Matthew 2:23.

NAZARETH was a town in the northern border of the plain of Esdraelon. Here came the angel Gabriel and announced to Mary the coming birth of Christ: "And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women." (Luke 1:26-28.) On the night of His betrayal Our Lord asked the question, "Whom seek ye?" They replied, "Jesus of Nazareth" and He said, "I am He." *Jesus of Nazareth, may we never be ashamed to be called the followers of the lowly Nazarene.*

SATURDAY

(133)

*Friend of Sinners**"Behold, * * * a friend of publicans and sinners."**Matthew 11:19.*

THESE are the words of Jesus Himself. He quotes their own phrases as applied to Himself. What a title! How wonderfully true it is—"A Friend of sinners!" So He was and so He is—a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother. Laying aside the royal robes of Heaven, He came here to befriend sinful men. It was a life-work that cost Him His life. Hallelujah! What a Friend! How gladly He paid the price of friendship. As we take up the work of the day, let us ask ourselves the question, "Am I a friend of sinners?" If not, then I am not like my Lord, for He was and He joyed in it. *Lord Jesus, the world is full of friendless sinners. May we make them acquainted with Thee who art their Friend. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(134)

*The Servant of Jehovah**"Behold my servant, whom I have chosen."**Matthew 12:18.*

JESUS, the prophesied Servant! Isaiah had portrayed Him. Jehovah had chosen Him. All of God's ways were known unto Him from the beginning. You hear the echo of His voice, "I delight to do Thy will, O my God!" Nothing was too great for Him to do for He was the Creator, and nothing was too hard for Him, for He had all power. Nothing was too small for Him to do for He stooped to notice a widow's mite and give a mighty lesson from it. What a gracious privilege to be yoked with Him in service. *Dear Lord, let us labor with Thee, the "Servant of Jehovah," today and thus make it a good day for Thee. Amen.*

MONDAY

(135)

My Beloved

*"Behold * * * My beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased." Matthew 12:18.*

TWENTY-SEVEN times in the Song of Solomon is this title used of our Lord. God's Son was a *beloved* Servant. How dear He was to the Father—dear as the apple of His eye. Yet His love for us was manifest in the surrender of His Son to pay the penalty of our sin. "Greater love hath no man than this." "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." In the hour of darkness He cried, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" The agony, the grief, the pain He suffered, all had a voice which rings out the message, "God so loved." *Our Father, Thy love for us has broken all the barriers down; and we pray that Thy Spirit may rest upon us this day as we meditate upon the greatness of Thy love. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(136)

A Sower

*"A sower went forth to sow. * * * He that soweth the good seed is the Son of Man." Matthew 13:3, 37.*

THE seed is the Word of God. God's Son sowed the good seed. He soweth the Word of Truth in the hearts of men. When we sow the Gospel we sow good seed. When we give out the Word of God we are sowing good seed. Nothing is comparable to the *Word* itself. It has potential power. It is a *living* seed and never fails. We are to imitate our Lord, the Sower, and see that the pure seed of the Word is scattered wherever we go. "Sow beside all waters." *Lord, make me a seed-sower this day, and hear my prayer for all the sowers in all the world. Amen!*

WEDNESDAY

(137)

*The Christ**"Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God."**Matthew 16:16.*

THIS is the title of the long-looked for Saviour—the Anointed One. Prophets had foretold His coming and now His kingly authority is recorded. Over three hundred times is this title used in the New Testament. From "Christ" comes the word, "Christian," and from "Christian" comes the word, "Christianity." Today this land of ours is the foremost Christian nation of the world. Our Gospel is the Gospel of Christ of which we are not ashamed, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth. *Lord, as "Christ-ones" let us honor Thee by having the same anointing power resting upon us as we enter the service of the day. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(138)

*Jesus the Christ**"Then charged He His disciples that they should tell no man that He was Jesus the Christ."**Matthew 16:20.*

THIS title, "Jesus the Christ," is used a hundred times in the New Testament. "The Saviour—the Anointed One"—a combination that magnifies the office of the One whom we long to worship. The time had not yet come for them to preach the story of redemption. They were to hold their peace for a season, but He tells *us* to go into all the world and tell to all people the wonderful message of Jesus Christ and His finished work. Are we obeying the command? *Dear Father, as we go forth today with this precious Name in our hearts and on our lips, help us to tell some-one of the wonders of the Man, Thy Son, Jesus the Christ! Amen.*

FRIDAY

(139)

My Beloved Son

*"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased;
hear ye Him." Matthew 17:5.*

WONDERFUL manifestation! A cloud of glory overshadowing that which was too deep for human eyes to penetrate. The voice of Jehovah attesting that Jesus was His beloved Son and that His words were to be heard. The same voice and the same message were heard in Chapter 3:17 when our Lord was baptized, and once again in John 12:28. *His beloved and our beloved!* How marvelous is that testimony to Him whom we have learned to love, and because we love Him, we are beloved of the Father. *Lord, may we breathe it over and over again today, "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine." Amen.*

SATURDAY

(140)

The Prophet of Nazareth

*"This is Jesus the Prophet of Nazareth of Galilee."
Matthew 21:11.*

THIS great demonstration had been planned by God and foretold by Him (Zech. 9:9). Our Lord comes into Jerusalem riding upon the foal of an ass. The crowd is vast; the enthusiasm is great. "Who is this?" is the cry; and the answer is, "This is Jesus, the Prophet of Nazareth." A despised Nazarene! A prophet from an obscure village! We are all proud if, perchance, we were born in some noted place; but God, when He took the form of a man, was born in a manger and made His home in Nazareth. For our sakes He became poor, that we through His poverty, might be made rich. *Let us meditate upon the riches of His grace, bow at His feet and kiss them as we adore Him; and may we walk humbly this day with the despised Nazarene. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(141)

Master

"One is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren." Matthew 23:8.

"MASTER" here means "Teacher," or some say, "Leader." The admonition is to avoid the desire for personal distinction so common among God's leaders. Let our eyes be fixed upon Him and depend upon the Holy Spirit who represents Him, and who guides us into *all* truth (John 16:13, 14). The more we seek to exalt Him, the less will we think of magnifying ourselves. Make Him Master of your life today, remembering that "The disciple is not above his Master; but everyone that is perfect shall be as his Master." (Luke 6:40.) *O, that we may be as our Master, the meek and lowly One! For this day, our Lord, we need great grace as we seek to follow Thee as Master. Amen.*

MONDAY

(142)

The Bridegroom

"And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came." Matthew 25:10.

THE Bridegroom must come. The true church is His beloved espoused bride. He has waited a long, long time for her to prepare herself for the glad day and to add the last one which will complete the body. Are you thinking of Him today as the Coming One? And of yourself as one of those who are to be blessed as His beloved throughout eternity? How insignificant are all the little cares and trials! How small they seem when our eyes are turned with expectancy toward Him as He comes in the clouds. "Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb." (Rev. 19:9.) Hallelujah! *May our prayer always be, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come quickly." Amen.*

TUESDAY

(143)

*The Holy One of God**"I know Thee who Thou art, the Holy One of God."**Mark 1:24.*

WHAT a testimony coming from the lips of one possessed of an unclean spirit, Satan's tool, under his power. But the presence of Christ overawed him. "I know Thee who Thou art, the Holy One of God." This was not a willing testimony, but was forced from him. Many men are devil-possessed, and the devil has powers accorded him, but Christ can hinder his followers; can cast out his demons and forbid their speaking. (V. 34.) How lovingly we should bow at His feet—the Holy One of God! May we fix our thoughts upon Him and say many times today as we walk and talk with Him "*Oh, Thou Holy One of God, glorify Thyself through us.*" Amen.

WEDNESDAY

(144)

Our Brother

"For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is My brother." Mark 3:35.

IF THIS is true, and it is, then the reverse is also true, and He is our Brother. The picture is given in the thirty-first and thirty-fourth verses: "There came then His brethren and His mother, and, standing without, sent unto Him, calling Him * * * And He looked round about on them which sat about Him, and said, Behold My Mother and My brethren." How wonderful that He should graciously give this title to those who do the Father's will! And what is that will? The acceptance of His Son as our Saviour and Lord, and the submission of our will to His will as revealed in His Word, for His Word is His will. How near and dear He is to us, our Lord and our Brother! Hold it fast in your meditation—"Ours by faith; ours forever." *Dear Lord, keep us in loving fellowship with Thyself this day. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(145)

Son of the Most High God

"And cried with a loud voice, and said, 'What have I do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God?' " Mark 5:7.

HERE we are confronted with another testimony from an unclean spirit—"Son of the most high God," he calls Jesus. What unseen powers compelled this significant title? Was it brought about by being face to face with Himself? Judas betrayed him, but this poor, demon-possessed man worshipped Him. In these strange days many teachers, professors and preachers refuse to honor Him as *the* Son, but only as *a* Son of God. But *we* lift our hearts to Him and say, "*Son of the most high God, be our companion this day and may we withhold naught from Thee.*" Amen.

FRIDAY

(146)

The Carpenter

"Is not this the carpenter?" Mark 6:3.

THE Carpenter! Two things are suggested in this verse. Joseph is not mentioned and is probably not now living. Jesus is working at the carpenter's bench and continued to do so until He assumed His place in His public ministry. We can and should visualize Him in His daily tasks—a man among men. How near He seems to us? What a joy to know that He handled the hammer and sharpened the saw, planed the plank and helped to supply the food for the family. Test this picture of Him with any false system and observe the contrast. No matter what our calling may be, the Carpenter will be one with us. We can walk arm in arm with Him to the daily task. *O, Thou Carpenter of Galilee, be Thou our ideal always! Amen.*

SATURDAY

(147)

*The Son of Mary**"Is not this * * * the Son of Mary?" Mark 6:3.*

THE Carpenter, the "Son of Mary," has come back to His home town from an evangelistic trip in which He had worked many miracles. The people were astonished at His teaching. Prejudice possessed them. "Is not this the Son of Mary?" We never worship Mary as do our Catholic friends, but we do honor her above all women—God's chosen vessel to bring forth His Son and fulfill His prophecy. How true He was to the last. See Him on the cross and hear His last words to Mary, "Woman, behold thy son" (John, the beloved, to whom He had said, "Behold thy mother.") *Blessed title—Son of Mary! The Babe who is one day to rule the world and at whose feet we shall bow in worshipful adoration! Let us do so now. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(148)

*Good Master**"Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" Mark 10:17.*

THIS question was asked of our Lord by a young man with great possessions, as recorded in Matthew 19:17. This is the concrete question of the soul of man, "What *do* to secure a right to Heaven?" The theme of *religion* is *do*; but the theme of our Lord was just the opposite, "Follow Me." Eternal life is a gift. Those who accept and follow Him find that He is the "Good Master" because He is the "God-Master," for only One is good and He is God, and He has provided for us a salvation—simple to accept but costing Him a price which involved His own life. How gracious is our God and how we should love and adore Him! *Lord, may we walk in the sunshine of Thy love today. Amen.*

MONDAY

(149)

Son of Man

"The Son of Man shall be delivered unto the chief priests and unto the scribes; and they shall condemn Him to death." Mark 10:33.

IN THE ninth chapter Jesus had said, "The Son of Man is delivered into the hands of men and they shall kill Him." How earnestly He sought to stress the fact of His approaching sacrifice upon His disciples and how He longed for their sympathy; but, alas, alas, how hard is the human heart! How difficult it is for Him to win us to Himself! "The Son of Man must suffer many things" He had said, but the saddest of all was the failure of His own beloved disciples to enter into the burden He bore as He approached the cross. *Oh, Thou Holy Son of Man, give unto us the loving hearts that will enter into fellowship with Thee in all things. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(150)

A Ransom

*"The Son of Man came * * * to give His life a ransom for many." Mark 10:45.*

"A RANSOM for many!" Here Christ is set forth as the penalty paid for the sins of the world. As sinners under the judgment wrath of God, He took our place and paid the penalty and the price of our deliverance with His own blood. Listen to the drops of blood as they fall from hands and feet and wounded side! They voice the words, "The ransom price for *my* sins and for the sins of the whole world." Would that men everywhere would believe it and receive it. How dear, how precious is He to us, washed clean in His blood and freed forever from the punishment due us. *Lord, may our ransomed souls well up in praise to Thy glorious Name! Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(151)

One Son, His Well Beloved

"Having yet therefore one Son, His Well Beloved, He sent Him also last unto them, saying, They will reverence My Son." Mark 12:6.

THE Saviour is in Jerusalem. The chief priests and scribes come to Him and question His authority. Jesus answers them in the parable of the vineyard, picturing to them the treatment of the servants who were sent to gather the fruit, telling the story—so old, so strange—of the attitude of the human heart toward God. He sent His Son, His well-beloved Son, and they took Him and killed Him and cast Him out. How could they? They have cast Him out of the schools and many of the churches, though all we have of earthly civilization and comforts today we owe to Him. *God's Well-beloved Son, we enthrone Thee today in our hearts. Help us to worship and adore Thee. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(152)

Christ, the Son of the Blessed

"Art Thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" Mark 14:61.

THE court is convened. The High Priest is presiding. Charges had been brought against the Lord Jesus Christ by false witnesses but they had not agreed. The High Priest put to Him a question, "Art Thou the Christ, the Son of the blessed? And He answered, "I am." There was no denial of the title, but a straight confession of His Sonship, Heirship, Power and coming Glory. And when He comes—if He tarry yet a season—we will be among those who will be caught up in the clouds to meet Him in the air and with the hosts of Heaven acclaim Him "Blessed!" *Lord, Jesus Christ, Thou Son of the Blessed, hasten the glad day. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(153)

*The King of the Jews**"And Pilate asked Him, Art Thou the King of the Jews?"**And He answering said unto him, Thou sayest it."**Mark 15:2.*

WHAT a title for our Lord to put His seal upon at the time when the Jews were in subjection to the Romans and He Himself a prisoner before a judge. But He is King of the Jews—yes, *King of kings and Lord of all*. Pilate will yet stand before Him to be judged, and the Jewish people will yet proclaim Him as their own King. He is the Ruler. Let us give Him His rightful place as Ruler in our lives. How can we serve Him today? Perhaps in some definite prayer for the Jewish people and some testimony to them of the joy there is in knowing, loving and serving Him. *Lord, remember Thine ancient people and all who seek to make Thee known to them. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(154)

*The Son of the Highest**"He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Highest." Luke 1:32.*

THIS is the message of the angel to Mary and here is a remarkable coincidence. In Mark 5:7, we have the evil spirit in the man in the tombs giving a similar title to Jesus, "Son of the Most High God." The title here given Him, is in fulfillment of Psalm 132:11: "The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne." David's heir is to reign as Son of the Most High God, and that time only waits for the completion of the church which is His Body. Let us do our best each day to win souls for Him and thus hasten the day when we shall be with Him and reign with Him. *Son of the Highest, we bow to Thee, we worship Thee. Help us to magnify Thy name today. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(155)

*God my Saviour**"And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour."**Luke 1:47.*

THE word "Saviour" here is "Soter" meaning "presence." Should we not imitate Mary, the blessed woman, in magnifying our Saviour and rejoicing in the finished work which He hath wrought in our behalf? It is never what *we* are, but what *He* is. Our joy is in Him and we rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory as we face this day with joyful hearts. Shall we not have a tender heart for those who do not know Him? *Saviour, like a shepherd lead us today to glorify Thy name in our efforts to win souls for Thee. Amen.*

MONDAY

(156)

*Horn of Salvation**"And hath raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David." Luke 1:69.*

HERE is a title which suggests the strength and power of our Lord—"Horn of Salvation." The word "horn" as used in the Scripture signifies "strength" and is often found in Hebrew literature. In the horns, the bull manifests his strength. The Lord Jesus Christ is our Strength and a very present help in time of trouble. (Psa. 118:14; 92:10; 28:7; 37:39.) "But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord; He is their strength in the time of trouble." You may be tempted and tried today. You may have burdens to bear. Let Him be your "Horn of salvation." *Lord, strengthen us by the power of Thy might for today's service for Thee. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(157)

The Highest

"And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest." Luke 1:76.

LISTEN to the voice of Zacharias, father of John the Baptist, as he voices the wonderful prophecy concerning his son who was to be the prophet of the Lord to prepare the way before Him. Our Lord is here named "the Highest," or, better, "the Most High." He came from the heights of glory to be born in a manger. "Prophet" in the New Testament means "a public expounder" and to us, His redeemed ones, has been committed this honorable title. We are the expounders of this great revelation of the Bible concerning our most highly exalted LORD. *Glory to God in the Highest, King of kings and Lord of lords, whom we claim as our own. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(158)

The Dayspring from on High

*"Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the Dayspring from on high hath visited us."
Luke 1:78.*

ZACHARIAS is inspired as his soul goes forth to speak of the coming of the Messiah. It has been suggested that the glory of the sunrise was breaking over the hills surrounding Jerusalem and the golden glory lighted up the horizon as his lips breathed the words inspired by the Spirit of God, "Dayspring from on high!" Perhaps the morning glory brought to the mind of Zacharias the message of Isaiah, "Arise, shine, for thy light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." *Before we take up our daily tasks, let us turn our eyes to the heavens with grateful hearts and let the Holy Spirit flood our souls with the glory of the Risen, Coming Christ. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(159)

Christ, the Lord

*"For unto you is born this day in the city of David
a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11.*

THE heavens are opened now and the message of the angel of the Lord is announced—"good tidings of great joy." The message was to the humble shepherds and it will mean much to us if we can, in humility of heart, take our place with the shepherds, acknowledge our unworthiness and appropriate the truth to our own souls—"Unto you is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord" (the Anointed One—the Ruler). We are no longer to rule ourselves. He is to rule us. *Lord, with joy we submit our wills, and surrender all to Thee. Help us to magnify Thee this day. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(160)

The Babe

*"Ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes,
lying in a manger." Luke 2:12.*

AGAIN the voice of the angel rings out to the shepherds: "Christ the Lord—the Babe—lying in a manger." How easy it would be for the shepherds to find Him. No other newly born babe would be found "lying in a manger"—just One—and He, the altogether lovely One, the chiefest among ten thousand! Sometimes the saints magnify their human birthright and place of birth, but He was to be a blessing to the humblest. Would not the cattle—could they have sensed the significance of the event—have bent their knees in homage to the Babe? How sad to know that millions in our own land have not yet bowed the knee to Him. *Lord, may we who have named Thy name, bow in humblest submission to Thee today and pour out our hearts in joyful praise to Thee, Thou Babe of Bethlehem. Amen*

SATURDAY

(161)

The Consolation of Israel

"There was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel." Luke 2:25.

SIMEON was just and devout and waited for the "Consolation of Israel." "Consolation" means "paraclete" (One coming alongside) as we think and speak of the Holy Spirit who comes to abide in and lead us out in our daily life. Simeon was waiting for the deliverance of the Jews by the coming of the Messiah. They did not as a nation receive Him, but some did and were consoled, and Israel shall yet have the promised consolation, as Paul was comforted by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit (1 Thess. 1:5). *Lord, may we also rely upon the abiding comfort of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit all the day. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(162)

The Lord's Christ

"And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ." Luke 2:26.

SIMEON believed the Word of God and rested upon its promises. The Holy Ghost came upon him and made a revelation to him. He was not to taste of death until he had tasted the sweets of seeing and knowing "the Lord's Christ." The Lord never fails His loved ones. When He can get hold of the hearts of men and women He is glad to make a revelation of Himself to them and give unto them the power of the Holy Spirit. His great heart beats in sympathy with every pulsing of every loyal-hearted follower. *Holy Spirit, give us new spiritual visions of the Lord's Christ. Amen.*

MONDAY

(163)

The Salvation of God

*"For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation * * * all
flesh shall see the Salvation of God."*

Luke 2:30; 3:6.

THE aged saint Simeon, standing in the temple, took the child Jesus in his arms and, looking into His face, lifted his eyes to Heaven and said: "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for *mine eyes have seen thy salvation.*" Long had he waited, long had he prayed, long had he desired to see Him. Now the Spirit of God reveals unto him the fact that his heart's desire had been granted and that he was gazing upon the Divine Saviour of souls and death had no more terrors for him. There is but one cure for the world's unrest, "The Salvation of God." Let us go out today and tell the story wherever we can. The poor, hungry-hearted, sin-sick souls are waiting. *Lord, guide us in this service to Thy Glory. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(164)

A Light to Lighten the Gentiles

*"A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of
Thy people, Israel." Luke 2:32.*

THE world has been a dark world ever since Adam and Eve listened to the temptation of Satan. There was no hope until God said: "The seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head"—a promise of coming victory for a lost race. He who is the light of the Gentiles is the light of the world (Matt. 4:16). The light shone for Israel first, but Israel rejected its blessed beams. But again the Light shall shine for the people now wandering over the earth in darkness. What is the duty of believers? Is it not to lift the Light high so that the world of sinners in darkness may come into fellowship with Him? *Lord of Light, help us to shine as lights in a dark world, this day. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(165)

*The Glory of Thy People Israel**"A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel." Luke 2:32.*

THE message of Paul was "To the Jew first," but here the Gentiles are mentioned first. The Jews turned away from Jesus and would not have Him to rule over them, but the Gentiles will not receive Him either—just a few. The glory shall rest upon Israel when He comes with sceptre in hand to rule a reconstructed earth. The Shekinah glory, manifested in the tabernacle and temple, will shine again upon His beloved people and Jesus—the Jew—will be the glory of Israel in that day. Let us love the Jews and seek to bring the Gospel of the grace of God to them. *Lord Jesus, who art the Glory of Thy people Israel, remember Thy persecuted, penalty-paying people and help us to love them. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(166)

*A Sign**"This child is set * * * for a sign which shall be spoken against." Luke 2:34.*

OUR Lord Jesus Christ was a significant sign to Israel. The prophecies had long before made clear that Israel was to be tested when the Messiah came. Some would believe and follow Him. Some would reject and crucify Him. Our Lord gave testimony to this fact when Pilate asked Him, "Art Thou a King?" And His answer was: "To this end was I born and for this cause came I into the world." Poor Pilate, he had had his evidence but would not accept it. Where is he? The Sign has been given to our land, also. Where are the multitudes? The same old story will be told again and again. *Oh, Lord, have compassion upon this poor land. Inspire Thy servants to be brave and true in sounding the alarm. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(167)

The Child Jesus

*"The child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem."
Luke 2:43.*

HERE we have our first view of Jesus as a young lad, interested in the business of His Heavenly Father. Hear Him when Joseph and Mary seek Him: "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" The strangeness of the story of His life is a constant surprise. God manifest in the flesh—a Child—with words of wisdom falling from His lips—a message for us all, "Occupy (do business) till I come." Every disciple is a business man or woman, and our business is the most important in all the world. Let us take as a motto for our daily life the words of the Child Jesus, "I must be about my Father's business." *Lord, help us to be busy about Thy business this day. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(168)

Physician

"And He said unto them, Ye will surely say unto Me this proverb, Physician, heal thyself." Luke 4:23.

OUR Lord had been in Galilee. His fame had spread throughout that region. He had wrought mighty miracles. He comes back home to Nazareth where He had been brought up, and preached in the synagogue on the Sabbath Day from Isaiah 61:1-3, saying, "This day is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears." The people who heard these words, said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" and then Jesus quoted to them our verse, a proverb among the Jews. What a mistake they made. He *was* the Great Physician. He is the Great Physician—"Able to do exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think." How few know Him as such an One! How few look to Him! How few depend upon Him! *Lord, Thou who art the Great Physician, we look to Thee today to supply our every need. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(169)

Lord of the Sabbath

"And He said unto them, That the Son of Man is Lord also of the Sabbath." Luke 6:5.

HE is the Master (Lord) of the Sabbath. He is the Maker of Heaven and earth. "Without Him nothing was made that is made." He is either what He claimed to be, or else He is the greatest impostor that ever lived. The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. It is lawful to do good on the Sabbath. Serving others is serving the Lord of the Sabbath. He, with His disciples, plucked and ate the wheat on the Sabbath, and on the Sabbath He healed the man with the withered hand. The Sabbath is the Lord's Day. Solve all your problems in connection with the Sabbath Day by the question, "What would the Lord do on this day?" Then whatsoever you do, whether ye eat or drink, do all to the glory of God. *Lord Jesus, we pray that every day may be a good day for Thee through our lives. Amen.*

MONDAY

(170)

A Great Prophet

"And they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up amongst us; and, That God hath visited His people." Luke 7:16.

FOUR centuries had elapsed since Malachi had passed away, and Israel had been without a prophetic voice. Now they are stirred by the presence of Jesus and glorify God. Israel was not forsaken. God's Word was true. And Jesus was a great Prophet; yes, greater even than they knew. Humble, quiet, gentle, no pomp, no display, but wonderful in works. Do we recognize His greatness? Do we believe His prophecies and promises? Do we possess them and profit by them and give glory to His name? *Lord, help us to believe every word of the Prophetic Book. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(171)

The Christ of God

*"He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am?
Peter answering said, The Christ of God."*

Luke 9:20.

JESUS was alone in prayer and asked His disciples the question, "Whom say the people that I am?" and after they had given their answers, He asked the question in our text. The disciples were compelled to recognize His heavenly gifts, His greatness, His power and His gracious Spirit, but it was hard for them to think of Him as One who must suffer persecution and death at the hands of the Jews. But He knew all that was before Him and walked steadily on toward the cruel cross upon which He must die. Today the *professing* church is inclined to reject the theme of His atoning blood, but those of us to whom He is "the Christ of God" adore Him more and more as the depths of His sacrifice and suffering are revealed. *Lord, may we hold Thee in our hearts today as "the Christ of God." Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(172)

A Certain Samaritan

*"But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, * * *
had compassion on him." Luke 10:33.*

THE story of the Good Samaritan is familiar to all of us, but read it again. Here we take the liberty of viewing our Lord as "a certain Samaritan." Humanity was His neighbor. He loved all, lived for all, labored for all and laid down His life for all. Being what He was and is, He could be nothing less, and we look up to Him today and glory in the mightiness of His humanity and the magnificence of His heart. If we are indeed Spirit-born, then there must be something of His loving kindness in us, and the world is waiting for our touch upon it. Will we take the Good Samaritan for our model today and pray, "*Lord Jesus, make us more like thyself.*" Amen.

THURSDAY

(173)

The Master of the House

*"When once the master of the house is risen up,
 * * * He shall answer and say unto you, I know
 not whence ye are." Luke 13:25*

HERE is a new title for our Lord—"Master of the House." How appropriate it is—"Lord of the house—the Head—the Governor." The "house" is Heaven where He is to rule. The appeal is for earnest effort upon the part of believers to impress upon the unsaved the fact that there is a Heaven and there is a hell, and only *one gate* to Heaven—Jesus Christ. Why do we not make more definite to people the awful consequences of failure to hear His voice *now*, and that there will come a time when it will be too late? *Dear Lord, may we labor and pray earnestly today that we may be faithful in urging upon people the necessity of decision for Christ. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(174)

A Guest

*"And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying,
 that He was gone to be guest with a man that
 is a sinner." Luke 19:7.*

ZACCHEUS was highly honored when Christ invited Himself to be his Guest. How like our Lord! He knew Zaccheus wanted to see Him and He sought him out and became his guest. How we would congratulate ourselves were some noted person to come to our house to dine. What a fuss we would make. How we would boast about it. Why do we not tell the story to everybody "A Great One has come to live in my house?" "Who is He?" "He is the King of glory. He holds the worlds in the hollow of His hand. He lives with me." *Oh, Thou blessed Guest, help us today to magnify and glorify Thee before all. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(175)

A Certain Nobleman

"He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return." Luke 19:12.

THE setting of this picture is remarkable. Our Lord is standing with the Jews around Him, in the shadow of a palace built by a nobleman, Archelaus, who had gone to Rome and received the kingdom from Cæsar. Our Lord is the Nobleman whose face was turned toward the land beyond the skies where He has gone and from whence He will one day return. "Occupy till I come" is His message. He has entrusted to us, as His servants, the most valuable treasures of Heaven,—time, opportunity, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, a great wide world in which to transact the greatest of all business! Precious privileges are ours and a solemn accounting must be given. *Lord, give us keenness of vision to see, and wisdom to utilize our opportunities in the investment of our lives for Thee. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(176)

The Chosen of God

Let Him save Himself, if He be Christ, the chosen of God." Luke 23:35.

CHRIST is on the cross. He prays, "Father, forgive them." The people stand beholding Him, the rulers deride Him and mock Him. What a picture! What a slur! "If Thou be the Christ, the *chosen of God?*" So do men today. The question mark grows as the days go by, but the title which was given Him in derision is a wonderfully true one, and is found again in 1 Peter 2:4. Yes, indeed! Chosen before the foundation of the earth, and the *only One* who could be chosen for the great work of our redemption. *Lord, Thou hast chosen HIM, and Thou hast chosen US. May we adore and glory in Thee this day. Amen.*

MONDAY

(177)

A Prophet Mighty in Deed and Word

"And He said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet, mighty in deed and word before God and all the people." Luke 24:19.

SOME hated Him. Some worshipped Him. Mighty in life, mighty in death and mighty in His resurrection! The rulers thought they had eliminated Him. Some seek to do so today. They crucified Him in fulfillment of Scripture, but He is alive today. He lives in the hearts of millions who would be willing to be crucified for Him. He will live throughout the eternal ages and every word He ever uttered will be fulfilled to the letter. *O, Thou mighty Prophet, help us to lay hold of the Word with intensified faith and hold fast until Thou shalt come. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(178)

The Word

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1.

WE COME today to John's Gospel in which we shall find many titles for the Son of God. Here we confront the first—"The Word." The book of Genesis commences with creation, but John commences with the Creator. Back of all things with which we ever have had or will have to do is *the Word*. "The Word was God!" What a foundation for our faith when we know that Jesus was the Word and the Word was God. Every day we can, if we will, be facing this tremendous fact, and as we feel the throb of our heart, there is a voice which says, "God!" As we look upon the heavens and the clouds—"God!" The sun, the moon, the trees, the flowers, the living creatures, all are saying, "God!" Without Him—nothing! With Him—all things! *Oh, Thou Living Word, who hast given us the written Word, help us to abide in Thee today. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(179)

The Light of Men

*"In Him was life; and the life was the light of men."
John 1:4.*

GOD said, "Let there be light; and there was light." (Genesis 1:3.) All life proceeds from our Lord, and all light, also. The Word is a life and light-giving Word—"The light of the world is Jesus." Visualize the whole world in the darkness of sin, men groping blindly, restless and hopeless. *We* have the Light of Life. *We* see Him face to face. *We* bask in the sunshine of His glory. Pity the blind! Pray for the blind! Carry the light of the glorious Gospel to their darkened souls. Tell them to arise and shine for the Light is come and the glory of the Lord shall shine upon them. *Help us, Lord, to walk in the light as we have fellowship with Thee and with one another. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(180)

The True Light

"That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." John 1:9.

"**T**HE true Light." This is in contrast with false lights. How many there are in our day. Satan is busy sending them forth through false cults, false teachers and false teaching. False lights dazzle the eyes but never reveal truth, nor bring radiance to the soul. The gloom of sin, the uncertainty of life, the dark outlook for the future, confront the sinner, stumbling along, without God and without hope. God has ordained us as lights. Let our lights shine today, and may we help some blinded ones to see Jesus as the true Light of the World. *Lord Jesus, in the light of Thy Word, and in the light of Thyself, may we witness for Thee today. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(181)

The Only Begotten of the Father

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth."

John 1:14.

THIS is the most sublime of all the statements of Scripture—"God became flesh!" John saw His glory. How wonderful! That glory was manifest in the person of the Only Begotten of the Father—Jesus Christ. He is the Unique Figure in the world's history—the sinless, perfect One—perfect God and perfect Man. "Great is the mystery of godliness; God was manifest in the flesh." He must be God to forgive sin, and He must be Man to atone for sin. So the God-Man is our Saviour. *We worship Thee, we adore Thee, O Thou only begotten of the Father. Help us to walk and talk with Thee this day. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(182)

The Lamb of God

"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29.

How shall we say in a few words that which springs up in our hearts and would break forth from our lips? "The Lamb which beareth away our sin" is a better rendering for He takes it away by *bearing* it. He bore the sins of those who received Him while here on the earth and He bore them *away* when He paid the penalty on the cross and shed His atoning blood. God's Lamb! No one else could be God's Lamb. He was the *voluntary* offering. What can we do? Believe it, accept it, take our place with Him. *Let us behold Thee every day—Jesus Thou Lamb of God—counting nothing too good to give to Thee or too much to do for Thee. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(183)

The Son of God

"And I saw and bare record that this is the Son of God." John 1:34.

JOHN had not known Him as the Messiah although he did know Him to be Mary's Son. But when the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus at His baptism, John knew Him as the Son of God and bore record to the fact. The testimony of John the Baptist is clear! Jesus is God's Son. He is the Promised One. Not *a* Son of God, as some of our learned critics condescendingly say, but *the* Son of God. We should seek to be like John the Baptist—a sign-post pointing to Him and saying, "Behold! the Son of God." John laid down his life for his loyalty to the Son of God. May we be willing to suffer anything so that our testimony shall be clear and clean always for Him. *Lord, help us to point someone to Thee today. Amen.*

MONDAY

(184)

Rabbi

"Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God; Thou art the King of Israel."
John 1:49.

"RABBI" means "teacher" and is used seven times in the New Testament. Nathanael recognized Christ as a teacher and He was—the greatest Teacher that ever lived. A careful study of the four Gospels with a view to learning how Christ taught, His method, His manner and His purpose, is better than any other possible training for Bible teachers. Christ was a true teacher. He taught the truth. He condescended to men of low estate. He used words which men could understand. He illustrated His messages in a practical manner. "The common people heard Him gladly." That was a high compliment indeed. *Lord help us to teach by our lips and by our life. Let us pray that we may so teach today. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(185)

The King of Israel

*"Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi,
* * * Thou art the King of Israel." John 1:49.*

WHEN Philip found Nathanael, the latter said to him "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" But when Nathanael came in touch with Jesus He broke out in testimony to His Deity and His Messiahship. Our Lord did not fail to acknowledge this sterling testimony and a great promise was given to Nathanael, "Hereafter thou shalt see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending." Ministering spirits were to be seen by him. Prayers were to ascend in the name of Christ and answers were to come back through Christ. We also can see the open heavens if we have faith. *Let us send up our prayers today in His name and look for the answer. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(186)

His Only Begotten Son

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

HERE is the most beloved verse in the Bible. What a revelation of God, of Christ, of the depths and power of love! How could He? Abraham gave his son, and God graciously gave him back. But *God's Son*—the Son of His love—the Only Begotten One—was given to a lost world, to sinful men. How did He give Him? Clothed in human form—a Man! Oh, the wonders of such a love! How it should stir our hearts! How we should love God for His gift! How we should love our Lord Jesus Christ—God's Only Begotten Son! *Let us with throbbing hearts for a lost world go forth today, and all the days, to tell the story to sinful, suffering men. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(187)

The Gift of God

"Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith unto thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldst have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water."

John 4:10.

HERE is that wonderful scene at the well of Samaria. The Lord has gone out of His way to meet the poor, sinful woman who has come to the well at a time when other women would not come; heavy-hearted, hopeless, but *One* loved her with a holy love. He is there and reveals Himself as the *"Gift of God."* He is God's gift to us. What is our gift to Him? May we yield ourselves, and all we are and have to Him! *May we imitate the Samaritan woman and go forth with the message: Come, see a Man—God's Gift. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(188)

Messiah

"The woman saith unto Him, I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ; when He is come, He will tell us all things." John 4:25.

THERE is no book like the Bible and there never can be. Christ's interview with the woman at the well and His revelation of Himself is unique and contrary to any conception that could have been made of Him. The Samaritans, as did the Jews, anticipated a Christ (an Anointed One). This was the promise given in Deuteronomy 18:18. This woman was the last one we would have chosen for such a revelation—but her soul was filled at once with the spirit of life and hope, and her lips bore a testimony—humiliating to herself—but bringing salvation to a multitude. Oh, that our lips might bear such convincing, convicting and converting testimony. *Lord, make us like this Samaritan woman! Amen.*

SATURDAY

(189)

The Christ, the Saviour of the World

"We have heard Him ourselves and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world."

John 4:42.

THE testimony of one woman brings forth from the lips of many this title, "Christ, the Saviour of the world." For a two days' revival, Christ tarried in the little city of the Samaritans and there was a blessed first fruitage to His glory. These people, unlike the Jews, asked for no signs, no miracles. They took Him at His word, just as we must do. When He speaks, it is God that speaks. "We have heard Him ourselves." The need of the world today is the personal experience of believers manifested in a personal devotion to Christ and in personal testimony to a hungry-hearted world. *Oh, Thou Christ, Saviour of the world, baptize us with the Spirit of service for Thee! Amen.*

SUNDAY

(190)

The True Bread from Heaven

"My Father giveth you the true bread from Heaven."

John 6:32.

THERE had been a wonderful scene on the lakeside. A great multitude of people had wound their way around the lake to meet Jesus and, after a day of preaching, they were hungry and had no food. A little lad was used of God to bring about a great miracle. Five thousand men—beside the women and children—were fed and twelve baskets of fragments gathered. Moses, by God's power, brought daily bread from Heaven, but it was only temporal. Jesus is the *True Bread* from Heaven which, if men partake of, they live forever. He only can satisfy our soul's hunger. The world is starving for the *True Bread*. *Lord Jesus, help us to go forth today and feed some hungry souls. Amen.*

MONDAY

(191)

The Bread of God

"For the bread of God is He which cometh down from Heaven, and giveth life unto the world." John 6:33.

IN THIS verse Jesus reveals Himself as coming down from Heaven. The Bread of God is a gift to hungry humanity—a Divine gift—a Heavenly gift—a gift from God—a gift, spiritual and supernatural. Teachers, preachers and workers for the Lord must always bear this in mind: The unsaved are hungry. Nothing will ever satisfy their hunger but the Bread of God—Jesus Christ. "He satisfieth the longing soul and filleth the hungry soul with goodness (God-Likeness.)" *Help us, Lord, to hear the cry of the hungry souls all about us, and help us to minister to them, in Thy name. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(192)

The Bread of Life

"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life; he that cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst." John 6:35.

ANSWERING humanity's cry as embodied in the request, "Lord, evermore give us this bread," Jesus says: "I am the Bread of Life," i. e., the Life-eternal-giving Bread. This reply settles the question forever. He is the *true Bread*, the *Bread of God* and the *Bread of Life*. How is this Bread to be dispensed? It must be made known to an ignorant world. The terms upon which it is to be received must be made clear and definite. "Come to Me," says Jesus, "And you shall never hunger. Believe in Me and you shall never thirst." How simple! The "life gift" is a *love* gift. Never put a straw in the way of a hungry sinner. There is nothing to do but to believe—receive—accept. *Nothing more. Lord, help us to go out laden with the Bread of Life and give it to the hungry. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(193)

The Living Bread

*"I am the living bread which came down from Heaven."
John 6:51.*

HERE is the fourth assertion of our Lord concerning Himself as the "Bread of Heaven," the "True Bread," "Bread of God," "Bread of Life," and now "Living Bread." And he tells us that He will lay down His own life in order that we may have this Living Bread to eat and so live forever. The process by which we are to nourish the new nature which we received by accepting Him is by feeding on Him. If our bodies do not assimilate food they perish, and in the proportion that we do assimilate our food, we are able-bodied. Here is a searching lesson: Many believers are not strong. Paul says, "For this cause many are weak and sickly among you and many sleep." *Lord, make us strong through feeding upon Thyself. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(194)

The Light of the World

*"Then spake Jesus unto them again, saying, I am the light of the world; he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."
John 8:12.*

AND God said, "Let there be light; and there was light." And God divided the light from the darkness." Now our Lord says, "I am the Light of the world." The world is a dark, gloomy place, but "God is Light and in Him is no darkness at all." If we follow Him we shall not walk in darkness. "Walking in the light," we have fellowship with one another and reflect the glory of His person in the gloom of the world. "Arise, shine, for thy light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." He can only be manifested through the lives of His own and the light of the Word. *O, Lord of Light, shine in our hearts and through our lives. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(195)

I AM

*"Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you,
Before Abraham was, I am." John 8:58.*

THE life of Abraham was limited. We know the time of his birth and of his departure. But there is no time limit to the life of our Lord. "Before Abraham was, I am." He was the Eternal Son of God. He was the Uncreated One, the Eternal One, the Self-existent One. Before the creation of the world He was the "I Am!" After the world passes away He will still be the "I Am." Without Him nothing was made that was made. He was God! Wonder of wonders! God manifest in the flesh! God pleading with men! God on the cross! God in the glory and coming in the clouds! Great, great is the mystery of God! *Son of God, Son of man, at the right hand of the Glory, we bow in Thy presence and say with deepest reverence, "Hallowed be Thy name." Amen.*

SATURDAY

(196)

The Door of the Sheep

"Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep." John 10:7.

WHAT contrast could be greater than that between the "I AM" and this title, "Door of the sheep?" Here our Lord paints a picture and uses an allegory into which sheep, sheepfold and shepherd are introduced, He, Himself, claiming a peculiar position, "The Door of the sheep." He is the door by which entrance is gained to Heaven. "By Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved." Put your hand upon the door—Jesus Christ on the cross—and enter the fold. There is safety. There is liberty. There is food for the sheep, and water and rest. Free from Satan's snare, filled with joy and peace, what more could we ask or desire? *Dear Lord, shepherd us today in Thine own arms. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(197)

The Good Shepherd

"I am the Good Shepherd; the Good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep." John 10:11.

WE SHALL have several meditations on our Lord as Shepherd, but here He speaks of Himself as the "Good Shepherd." God is good and Jesus is God. Therefore, He is good. If we could stop for a few moments and sense His presence, longing to speak to us in tones of deepest love, with His wonderful eyes fixed upon us, and His holy desire to draw us in loving tenderness to Himself—would we not say of Him, "He is so good. He died for me." And would not our hearts go out in passionate love to Him? *Loving Shepherd, help us to keep close to Thee today. Amen.*

MONDAY

(198)

One Shepherd

"And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." John 10:16.

ISRAEL had a limited view of our Christ. They were wrapped up in themselves. Selfish, narrow in their vision of the Messiah that was to come, they were without compassion, as we ourselves so often are, having no patience with those who differ from us. Not so our Lord. He had a heart boundless in love; a soul longing for the children of men; looking forward into the future, seeing the hatred of the Jews (His own people) to the cross, the cruel death, and then the many sheep, washed in the same blood, filled with the same Holy Spirit of Life, folded in the *one fold*. Wonderful vision! *Shepherd of our lives, enlarge our hearts in sympathy with the pulsings of Thine Own loving heart. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(199)

The Resurrection

"Jesus saith unto her, I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25.

HERE our Lord links His own title "I AM" with the resurrection, "I am the gift of the resurrection to all who believe on me. Though he die, who believeth on Me, yet shall he live." Faith in Him equals eternal life and that assures our resurrection. Because He lives, we *must* live. Death may come to us, but it will be the shadow only, which will pass and leave us in the full sunlight of eternal life. Nothing can separate us. He who raised up Christ from the dead shall quicken our bodies. "Whosoever liveth and believeth in Me, shall never die." In His resurrection He conquered death. Praise the Lord! *Lord Jesus, come quickly and change these bodies of our abasement into the likeness of Thine own glorified body. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(200)

The Christ, the Son of God

"She saith unto Him, Yea, Lord; I believe that Thou art the Christ, the Son of God." John 11:27.

HERE is a remarkable confession from the lips of Martha, "The Christ, the Son of God." Lazarus was in the tomb. Her eyes, no doubt, were full of tears, her soul full of sorrow, but her faith in Jesus as the Christ never wavered. She heard that Jesus was coming and called Him "Lord"; then she said, "I believe that Thou art the Christ, the Son of God." How sweet! How blessed! But yet the heart of Jesus was pained for He groaned in spirit because of her lack of faith that He would answer prayer and raise Lazarus up. *Lord Jesus, help us never to disappoint Thee in our faith in Thy power and Thy promise to answer our faith. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(201)

A Grain of Wheat

"And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of Man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn (grain) of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone; but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit."

John 12:23, 24.

BEFORE He could be glorified He must be as a grain of wheat. How insignificant seems a grain of wheat, and yet this suggestion is one of the most wonderful in the Word of God. A grain of wheat is so small that it can hardly be held between the fingers without dropping, and yet it is associated with *His glory*. He must die in order to bring forth fruit. So must we, if we are to be like Him. How hard it seems to human pride to become as a grain of wheat and then to die to this world. But listen to the words of His testimony and look upon His example. Do we desire to be like Him? *Lord, help us to ponder upon this truth today and long to be more like Thee. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(202)

Master

"Ye call me Master and Lord; and well ye may, for so I am." John 13:13.

"MASTER" means "Teacher" and the authoritative Teacher He was and is. We are to learn of Him, for He is the Truth and reveals the truth to men. He has left to us His words of wisdom and we are to sit at His feet and learn of Him. We recognize this position of our Lord by yielding submission to His authority and acknowledging it daily. He knows the past. He knows the present. He knows the future. Let our prayer be, *Lord, teach us Thy will, through Thy Word. Help us to know, understand and gladly live out Thy will. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(203)

*The Way**"Jesus saith unto Him, I am the way." John 14:6.*

HE IS the Way—"a Way without deviation"—the strait and narrow Way, the only Way which leads directly to the Father. There are a thousand ways which lead to destruction, to eternal darkness and separation from the Father. Satan has multiplied agents pointing to his wicked way, but Christ is the Sign Post, saying: "This is the Way; walk ye in it." When we walk in *the Way* we walk in the light. We journey with Himself in sweet fellowship. What a joyful journey! The Way is lightened by His countenance. He holds us by the hand. He supplies our needs. What a Saviour! *Lord, help us to keep in touch with Thee as we travel along the Heavenly highway to the home prepared for us by Thee. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(204)

*The Truth**"Jesus saith unto him, I am * * * the truth."**John 14:6.*

HE IS not only the Way, but He is the *Truth*—"the truth without any contradiction." We are God's free men, for we know Him who is the Truth, and the Truth makes us free. He is the Truth about the Word of God. Hear Him say, "I am not come to destroy the law or the prophets, but to fulfill." And "It is easier for Heaven and earth to pass than for one jot or tittle of the law to fail." Pity the poor deceived students in the schools, and the devil-deluded ministers and teachers who cast any reflection upon the Word of God to which Jesus has set His eternal seal! Doubt concerning the inerrancy of the Bible is a doubt concerning Himself. Do not taint your soul with such unholy thoughts. *Lord, Thou art the Truth. We look to Thee. Guide us into the Truth all the days. Amen.*

MONDAY

(205)

*The Life**"Jesus saith unto him, I am * * * the life."**John 14:6.*

HE is not only the Way and the Truth, but He is the Life—Eternal Life, the Author of Life and the Giver of Life. We almost stagger when we confront this statement by the One who left Heaven and the throne of God and came to this earth that He might reveal Himself and receive to Himself those who were to inherit through Him and share with Him this eternal Life. Our short pilgrimage here is soon ended and then, O joy, we enter the unending, eternal Life. *Lord, how we thank Thee that Thou art our eternal Life through the indwelling Holy Spirit. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(206)

*The Vine**"I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without Me ye can do nothing." John 15:5.*

HERE the Lord calls Himself "The Vine" as He associates Himself with the branches. He is the root and stem upon which we, as branches, must depend. The purpose of the Vine is to bear fruit. The life is in the *vine*, but that life is also in the branches, and we are to be fruit-bearing branches. "He that *abideth* in Me and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit." We can bear no fruit of ourselves. Our dependence is upon Him. The desire of the Husbandman is to produce fruit, and we must ask ourselves the question: "Am I a fruit-bearing branch? If not, why not?" How patient He is, yet how fearful is the contemplation of the thought: "I may be a fruitless branch." *Lord, forbid that it should be so. Holy Spirit, fill us with Thyself that we may bear much fruit. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(207)

*The Overcomer**"I have overcome the world." John 16:33.*

A GRAPHIC picture—one of the "last night messages" of our Lord—fraught with tremendous interest to every believer. A world of tribulation confronted Him and a world of tribulation confronts His church. "Ye shall have tribulation" and we do, but in Him we have peace—the peace of God, which passeth understanding. How blessed to be in Him who is the Source of our strength! We must learn to overcome through Him. There is nothing too hard for Him. He loves to give us victory. We please Him by trusting Him and taking by faith what He has purchased for us. *Let us bow in His presence and commit all to Him for victory today and thus glorify our Overcomer. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(208)

Our Keeper

"While I was with them in the world I kept them in Thy name; those that Thou gavest Me I have kept."
John 17:12.

THIS prayer on the night before His crucifixion is one of sacred sweetness and comfort. While He was here He guarded and kept His own. Now He is in the glory and still guards and keeps us. The enemy, Satan, who captured and controlled Judas, would separate us, if he could, from our Lord; but He is our Keeper and we can trust in His unfailing promise: "I will him keep in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Me because He trusteth in Me." The enemy has ten thousand agents seeking to spoil our lives, but nothing can separate us from the love of God as manifested in Christ Jesus our Lord. *"Now unto Him who is able to keep us from falling * * * to the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory, forever." Amen.*

FRIDAY

(209)

The Sent of the Father

*"As Thou hast sent Me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. * * * as My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you." John 17:18; 20:21*

FROM the glory which He had with the Father before the world was, He was sent into this world of sin and shame to redeem sinful men. He was God's Apostle—God's "Sent One." His prayer now to the Father is that they might be *sanctified* (set apart) as He was set apart for the work of redemption. He prays that His disciples might also be set apart for the great work of saving men. Christ has not changed. This prayer was for us, also, as He says in v. 20: "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word." His holy desire is that we might be in the world with the same message that He Himself had. *Lord Jesus, help us to recognize today Thy call and our calling to save souls. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(210)

The Man

"Behold the man." John 19:5.

"**B**EHOLD the Man!" How little Pilate knew what he was doing when he bestowed upon our Lord that significant title, "The Man!" The word "man" is used nearly three thousand times in the Bible, but there is only one "THE MAN"—the Man from Heaven. The word in the original is "Adam"—a human being—and such He was. Oh, the marvel of it! It seems too good to be true, and yet it is true. For our sakes—in order to be one with us and to bear our sin—He threw aside His royal vesture and donned the garments of humanity, that He might interpret to us the purpose of the Father. *In the name of this Man, our Father, we ask for guidance today and pray that our hearts may be in tune with His. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(211)

My Lord and My God

"And Thomas answered and said unto Him, My Lord and my God." John 20:28.

THOMAS is the doubting disciple. He loved His Lord and had been willing to die with Him, but could not believe in His bodily resurrection. He demanded a definite proof. Eight days had passed when he is confronted with the risen Jesus who says, "Put your finger in my hands, and put your hand in My side; and be not faithless but believing," and out of a heart throbbing with joy Thomas cries, "My Lord and my God." How sympathetically loving is our Lord with our unbelief. How patient He is, yet how He longs for our unquestioning, implicit faith. Let us honor Him by believing Him with all our heart. *Our Lord and our God, help us today to look upon the wounds which Thou carriest for us and with full faith renew our pledge of loyalty to Thee. Amen.*

MONDAY

(212)

A Man Approved of God

"Jesus of Nazareth, a Man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by Him in the midst of you." Acts 2:22.

THIS is the testimony of Peter, the fisherman-apostle, concerning our Lord, Jesus of Nazareth. "A Man approved of God!" He professed to be the promised Messiah, the Son of God, and made good His profession by His public life. His miraculous works were the proof of miraculous power. He was God in human form. He set His followers the example for holy living. When believers are anointed of the Holy Spirit and seek by lip and life to honor their Lord, the approval of God the Father will be upon them. *Lord, help us to live a life approved of God, so that through us wonders may be wrought in the salvation of souls. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(213)

Thine Holy One

"Because Thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption."

Acts 2:27.

THE Godhead and manhood were united in Christ, and it was impossible that He should be holden by the power of death. He passed through the agony; He paid the penalty; He suffered the separation; but death could not hold Him. The unfailing Word of God had promised His resurrection and so "up from the grave He arose." He hath broken the bars of death from us and in the freedom of the new life, with glorified bodies, we will be forever with Him. *May our souls be led to magnify Thee, the Holy One, this day and rejoice in the hope of soon being with Thee. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(214)

The Holy One and Just

"But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you." Acts 3:14.

PETER is delivering a sermon to the Jews. They had looked with wonder at the lame man healed by the hand of Peter, and Peter was taking advantage of the opportunity to set before them the resurrected Christ as the One whom they had condemned but whom God had raised from the dead, to whom he gives this title "Holy One and Just." And such is He, the Spotless One, without sin, God manifest in the flesh. Do we recognize Him as the Holy One? Sometimes familiarity breeds indifference. May it never be so with us. Every suggestion of "the Holy One" should stir our souls in adoration and holy desire to be like Him. *Oh, Thou Holy One, may we seek earnestly this day to live as in Thy sight, adoring Thee constantly. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(215)

The Prince of Life

"And killed the Prince of Life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses." Acts 3:15.

THE Prince of Life"—a remarkable title to give to our Lord when viewed in contrast with Barabbas, the murderer who took life. One—the bestower of life; the other—the destroyer of life. He came that men might have life and life more abundantly. How many there are who ignore and reject Him who will never have the joy of living and reigning with Him through the eternal ages. Are we doing our best to make Him known to lost men? *Lord Jesus, Thou Prince of Life, stir our hearts with compassion for the lost, and help us today to make Thee known to some blinded soul. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(216)

The Holy Child Jesus

"For of a truth against Thy holy child Jesus, whom Thou hast anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together." Acts 4:27.

PETER and John are before the Council to be examined in connection with the miracle of the healing of the lame man. They gave their testimony to the fact that it was in the despised name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth that this had been done. The Council could do naught but let them go. They went at once to the place where the church were gathered together and reported what had been done and the assembly lifted their voices in thanksgiving, glorifying the name of the "Holy Child Jesus" against whom His enemies were gathered. They prayed that in the name of this Holy Child Jesus signs and wonders might be wrought and they were. *Lord Jesus, we thank Thee that they are being wrought today and will be until Thou dost come again. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(217)

A Prince and a Saviour

"Him hath God exalted with His right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour." Acts 5:30, 31.

HERE is a picture and a theme for our meditation. A convict—a criminal in the sight of men—hanging on a tree, dying an awful death of shame, suffering the agonies of hell itself that the question of sinful man's sin might be settled forever—exalted by God to the highest heights—a Prince! But to establish His title He became the Sin-bearer that He might become the Sin-blotter. Destined to deepest depths of human suffering and humility, but raised to the highest heights of honor and glory. Oh, the wretchedness of our sin which demanded it, and the wonders of a Saviour which delivered it! *Lord Jesus, our Prince and our Saviour, we yield ourselves to Thee with glad hearts. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(218)

The Just One

"Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? And they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have now been the betrayers and murderers."

Acts 7:52.

THE words "Just (righteous) One" burst from the lips of Stephen, the first martyr, in the wonderful message which he gave before the Council in defending the name and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. He paid with his life for his loyalty to his Lord and will receive his reward. It was through his testimony that the Spirit of God brought conviction to Saul of Tarsus, resulting in his conversion. How much would *we* be willing to suffer for Him? *Oh, Thou blessed Saviour of our souls, warm our hearts in devotion to Thee. Make us sturdy and strong as defenders of the faith. Amen.*

MONDAY

(219)

Lord Jesus

"And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Acts 7:59.

STEPHEN is passing through the fire of Jewish hatred. But God is faithful to His faithful servant and martyr and opens the Heavens to him showing him Jesus standing at the right hand of His glory. The cry of Stephen was "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." His prayer was like that of Jesus who said, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit" (Luke 23:46). What a testimony to the Deity of our Lord! Only He who gave the spirit could receive it. To depart and be with Christ was far better for Stephen and it will be for us when in His own good time He calls us. *Lord Jesus, help us to witness a good confession, gladly facing any foe, even death that, like Stephen, we may glorify Thee whether in life or death. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(220)

Lord of All

"The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ; (He is Lord of all)." Acts 10:36.

JESUS CHRIST is Lord of all men. Peter was a Jew and did not want to depart from Jewish ground, but God sent him a vision from Heaven to make clear to him that He was no respecter of persons. "While Peter yet spoke the Holy Ghost fell upon all that heard the Word." Our Lord loves all; He died for all; He commissions us to go and preach to all. The world is the field, and every soul living has a claim upon us, which we must meet and answer for. What a wonderful Lord of all! What a wonderful Gospel! What a wonderful salvation! *Oh, Thou Lord of all, reprove us today for our selfishness, our lack of likeness to Thee, and fill us with the Holy Ghost that we may gladly be witnesses to all men. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(221)

The Judge of Quick and Dead

"And He commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is He which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead." Acts 10:42.

HERE is a testimony to the fact of the resurrection of the dead and a judgment of the living and the dead of all generations. Christ's position is one of dignity and power and must be recognized. In love for men, He became a Man, mingled with men, manifested His love for individuals as well as for all men—but it must not be forgotten that He is also the *Judge* of all men. Believers have rights and titles conferred upon them by reason of their acceptance of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, but they, too, must face Him to be judged for their works. *The Day* must come and we must face it. *Lord, we are Thine and Thou art ours. Let us adore and serve Thee today. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(222)

That Man Whom He Hath Ordained

"Because He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained." Acts 17:31.

JESUS was ordained—set apart—appointed—designated—as THE MAN who is to judge the whole human race, and the evidence, or proof, of this is the fact of His resurrection from the dead. It will be a righteous judgment by a righteous Judge. It will be an impartial judgment by One who created all things, and who knows all things, a holy, unerring Judge. He will have the books opened before Him, and there can never be any appeal from the verdict. What is your relation to this Ordained Man? Are you ready? *Lord, help us to be faithful witnesses while it is called today. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(223)

Jesus of Nazareth

"And I answered, Who art Thou, Lord? And He said unto me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest." Acts 22:8.

MORE than twenty times in the Scriptures is our Lord called "Jesus of Nazareth." Here it is remarkable. Paul is telling the story of his conversion. He is bound with chains, a prisoner, in the hands of the Roman authorities. He says that the words which came to him from the Heavens were "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" And in answer to his question, "Who art Thou, Lord?" came the answer, "I am Jesus of Nazareth." That is His name *now*. From the glory He acknowledges His earthly title—"Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus is God. He made the worlds, but He acknowledges the little obscure town of Nazareth, His "home town" down here. *Jesus of Nazareth, we want to be one with Thee. Guide us to Thy glory. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(224)

Jesus Christ our Lord

"That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 5:21.

HERE we have the grouping of three titles, "Jesus" (Saviour) "Christ" (Anointed) "Lord" (Master). In a few words the great problem of the ages is solved. Sin, with its death-dealing power, wore the crown of victory over mortal man, but there was One greater than Satan, the author of sin, and in that One was manifested the victorious power of grace (unmerited favor) by which, through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, God's condescending love could be manifested in His Son, our Lord and Master. *"Jesus Christ, our Lord"—we breathe the words with joyful lips and give Thee thanks for that grace which has saved and which keeps us. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(225)

The First Born Among Many Brethren

"For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren."

Romans 8:29.

A WONDERFUL title for our Lord, "The First Born!" Adam was the first born among men, but he forfeited his rights and privileges through sin and God ordained another Man to be the First, who was to be born of a woman, and be the Head of a great company of brethren. God has plans for the human race and is carrying them out as the years come and go. Jesus is the "First Born" and we who are "born-again" ones are, by His grace, being conformed to His image, and, when He comes from Heaven, we will be among the sons of God and united forever to and with Him. *Our eyes are fastened upon Thee, Thou First Born One, today, and we say out of our hearts, come quickly. Amen.*

MONDAY

(226)

His Own Son

"He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things." Romans 8:32.

"HIS Own Son," "His Only Son," "The Son of His Love"—the dearest, the best He gave, out of His great heart freely, lovingly, once for all to the sinful children of men. Having given us His best, will He withhold anything from us? Why do we doubt Him? Why do we live such poor, selfish, sordid lives, when the world is so needy, when hearts are so heavy and broken? Why do we fail to appropriate what He has so freely offered us? Is there not a challenge to us here? Let us meet it today. *Lord, help us to believe and with joyful hearts ask for great things for a needy world in the name of Thy Son. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(227)

God Blessed Forever

"Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen." Romans 9:5.

As we journey through the Word of God how Christ illumines it all with His presence! His titles are many. How significant is this "God blessed forever!" The promised Messiah of the Jewish stock and the flower of its race, yet they would not receive Him. He was the Shekinah glory tabernacling in human form in the midst of the world. But their eyes were blinded, and what centuries of sorrow have followed and will follow until He comes for His own, and then will come the saddest of all experiences for them. Pity both Jew and Gentile in our own day who refuse to acknowledge Him as "God blessed forever." *May we bow to Him today and say from our hearts, "To us Thou art indeed 'God blessed forever.'" Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(228)

Lord Over All

"For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek; for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him." Romans 10:12.

"HE is rich unto all who call upon Him." Then why not call? The only requirement is that we belong to His family. The door is open to all to join that family, and for the family there are riches of revelation, riches of forgiveness, riches of grace, riches of love. Just call in His name, and He will answer, for "Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in My name, that will I do," and that word "whatsoever" comprehends everything. He will supply *all* your need. How much we lose—how much we lose, because we do not call. *Lord, over all, hear our prayer today. May we glory in the riches of Thy name, and wilt Thou incline us to believe and receive. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(229)

The Lord

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13.

THE Master loves to hear the call of a sinner for salvation. How many sin-sick, weary souls there are who are hungry for salvation. They do not know this verse. They have false ideas about Christ and about salvation. They would gladly cry to the Lord but He has not been revealed to them. They need someone to tell them of His longing to have them in His family. "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God." Listen to the words, "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things." "To preach" means "to tell out," "to proclaim"—and if you are a believer then you are a God-ordained preacher and will be held accountable for your ministry. *Oh, Lord, our Master, send us all out today to tell the love story to others. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(230)

The Deliverer

"And so all Israel shall be saved; as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob." Romans 11:26.

HERE we face a startling prophecy. The ancient people of God, scattered about in every land without a country of their own save as certain permission is given them—as now to reside in the old land—these Jews are yet to be delivered and as a nation they shall turn to Christ as their Deliverer and shall be God's earthly people as we shall be His Heavenly people. Let us never forget how much we owe to the Jewish race and let us seek earnestly to bring as many as possible of them to Christ now. *Oh, Lord Jesus, Thou hast been our Deliverer. We glory in Thy name. Help us to help others to know Thee. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(231)

Lord Both of the Dead and the Living

"For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that He might be Lord both of the dead and living." Romans 14:9.

CHRIST is the center of all affairs as related to this earth. He rules. He reigns. He keeps books and some day those books are to be opened. Adam and Eve and everyone that has ever lived will be there to answer to the call. Saints (or saved ones) will be judged for their manner of living. That will be one judgment. Sinners will be judged, and that will be another judgment. There can be no evasions, no exceptions. All accounts must be faced and settled. Men should live in that prospect. How blessed for those whose sins are covered by the blood! But how sorrowful for even those if they have not sought to do their best for Him! *Oh, Lord, may the words of our mouths and the thoughts of our hearts be pleasing to Thee this day. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(232)

Minister of the Circumcision

"Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God to confirm the promises made unto the fathers." Romans 15:8.

HERE again we have a title which unites in the Spirit both Jew and Gentile as partakers of the grace of God. He came to the Jews with His message of love, but they would not have Him. He turned to the Gentiles and some received Him. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is for all men, because all have sinned. He came for all. He loved all. He died for all. He longs to gather all unto Himself. He is the "Minister of the Circumcision" and the "Minister of the Cross." We are one in Him. *Oh, Thou blessed One, minister unto us today and help us to minister unto Thee. Amen.*

MONDAY

(233)

The Power of God

"But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God." 1 Cor. 1:24.

WHEN we use the word "power," we are possessed with a strange sensation. Every fibre of our beings is tense and we think of might and authority. So when we think of our Lord Jesus Christ we can visualize Him as the Mighty One. From a power-house the electric current issues and darkness is displaced by light; the engine is imbued with life and moves the train carrying, perchance, the armies of a nation. So our Lord Jesus Christ is the *Power of God*, for all power is committed unto Him. He speaks and it is done! And this Powerful One has said, "Ask and ye shall receive." How wonderful that He should love such as we! *Lord Jesus, we commend ourselves to Thee today and rest in faith in the power of Thy love for us. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(234)

The Wisdom of God

*"But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ * * * the wisdom of God." 1 Cor. 1:24.*

TO THOSE who are called He is the Wisdom of God. The Bible teaches us that wisdom is the principal thing and, therefore, we should seek wisdom and Him who is the storehouse of wisdom. "Never man spake like this Man." "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask in faith, nothing wavering." "Giving doth not impoverish Him." "The wisdom of the world is foolishness with Him." Then let us be wise and seek the wisdom that passeth all understanding. *Lord, as we face the duties and privileges of this day, guide us by Thy wisdom to Thy praise and glory. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(235)

Righteousness

*"But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is
made unto us * * * righteousness."*

1 Cor. 1:30.

RIGHTEOUSNESS is "rightness." We were all wrong and always wrong, but in Him we are made right. All of our righteousness was as filthy rags. There was nothing in us that would commend us to God and never could be. But what a change when we are in Him and He is in us. We are made sinless, *in Him*, for He bore all our sins and paid all the penalty, and His righteousness is imputed to us. What a joy to be *consciously* in Him! And what a price He paid in order to become our righteousness! *Lord, teach us to recognize this day our unworthiness and to dwell much upon the fact that THOU ART OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(236)

Sanctification

*"But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is
made unto us * * * sanctification."*

1 Cor. 1:30.

TO BE "sanctified" is to be "separated"—"set apart." We could never be sanctified by our own efforts, for we are absolutely helpless save as He becomes all things to us. We are in Christ Jesus and what He is, we are, and what He has, we share. We are nothing. He is everything. May we see ourselves in Christ Jesus. He has set us apart to be His representatives in a lost world. In every act and deed we represent Him. *Lord, today, may the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable unto Thee. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(237)

Redemption

*"But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us * * * * redemption."*

1 Cor. 1:30.

WHAT an awful thing is sin, and "coming short of the glory of God" is sin. How can any sensible person ever conceive of the possibility of a soul living with God with a sinful nature? The grace of God is wonderful. He loved us. He gave His Son for our redemption, and that Son poured out His life blood to atone for our sins. Who could measure the height or depth, or length or breadth of such love? Shall we not manifest our love by yielding all that we are and have to Him? *Our blessed Lord, help us to walk in the light of Thy love this day as the redeemed of Thee. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(238)

The Lord of Glory

"Which none of the princes of this world knew; for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory." 1 Cor. 2:8.

WHAT a title is this! Back of it are the eternal years which the mind of man can never penetrate. "The Lord of Glory"—Creator of all things, in whom is wrapped up all wisdom and power. "Had they known!" Oh, the pity of it that eyes are closed and hearts bolted against the revelation of our Lord who descended from the heights of glory and went into the depths of human sorrow and suffering in order to reveal Himself to sinful men. Pity the poor princes of this world who resist the entreaties of the Holy Spirit to receive Him as Saviour and Lord. *Oh, Thou gracious Lord, make our meditations of Thee sweet this day. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(239)

The Foundation

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 3:11.

HERE we have a wonderful title for our Lord—"Jesus Christ, the Foundation." That foundation was laid before the world was created. There is no other. Upon this Foundation is built all of the purposes of God for time and for eternity. Upon it is being built the church, "a holy temple," and a "habitation of God through the Spirit." How is this structure to be built? By the Holy Spirit through His own beloved disciples who are endued and endowed with power to go into the world and gather the stones of human souls. What a wonderful work is assigned to us, working in harmony with Himself. *Dear Lord, be with us this day as we seek to gather to Thyself precious souls who shall become stones in Thy temple. Amen.*

MONDAY

(240)

Our Passover

"Purge out, therefore, the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us." 1 Cor. 5:7.

THE Jews had their Passover which commemorated their flight from Egypt which God accomplished with a high hand and a stretched out arm. It was a foretaste of our Passover—a Lamb without blemish, slain for our sins, whose blood sprinkled upon our hearts cleanses from sin, and whose broken body feeds our souls. With us it is a daily feast. By it we are separated from the worldly Egypt and safe forevermore. Therefore, let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. *Lord Jesus, in fellowship sweet we would sit at Thy feet and feast on Thee, this day. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(241)

That Spiritual Rock

"And did all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that Rock that followed them; and that Rock was Christ." 1 Cor. 10:4.

PAUL is calling attention to the journey of the children of Israel through the wilderness and comparing it to the life of the church. They were supernaturally supplied daily with food and water. The water was a gift from God; symbolizing the Water of Life which springs from the spiritual Rock, which is Christ. He is our Rock, and from His riven side flow rivers of living water. How often we have sung, "Jesus the Water of Life will give, freely, freely, freely"—and then how often we have forgotten to slake our thirst from that Fountain which will never cease to flow down through the ages. *Lord Jesus, our spiritual Rock, help us to drink freely of Thy living water today. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(242)

The Head of Every Man

"But I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ." 1 Cor. 11:3.

GOD reigns supreme in this world, but God is manifested in the flesh in the person of Jesus, who is supreme over all humanity and every man is morally bound to acknowledge and obey His authority. He is the "Head over all things to the church." Were the church to acknowledge His authority and become obedient to His command, what a different condition would exist. As Head of the church He has given orders to "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel," but, alas, His command has not been obeyed. Let us bow to His mandate and let everyone of us seek to do our part. *Lord Jesus, we bow to Thy mandate today. Help us to tell the story of the cross to a lost world. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(243)

The First-Fruits of Them That Sleep

"But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept." 1 Cor. 15:20.

HERE is an emphatic statement, "Now is Christ risen." There can be no controversy over this fact. The church itself is the challenge to all doubters. The Bible, the lives of believers, all witness to the fact of His resurrection. He is the *first-fruits*, and every believer looks forward with glad anticipation to the coming day of all days when the trumpet shall sound and "the dead in Christ shall rise first." This is the blessed hope—to be with Him and like Him forever. *Make this a glad day, our Lord, as we contemplate this wonderful truth and think of Thee as the coming, glorious One. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(244)

The Last Adam

"And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit." 1 Cor. 15:45.

THE *first* Adam was created out of the dust of the earth and God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. The *last* Adam was conceived by the Holy Ghost. He was a "God-Man." The first Adam was innocent; the last Adam was holy. The first became a sinner; the second was sinless. He was a life-giving Spirit. He was the Life-giver and the Light-giver. Through this last Adam, through faith, we receive the nature which prepares us for an eternal inheritance and qualifies us for the celestial joys of the celestial city. *Our Lord, Thou hast quickened us by the indwelling Spirit, and we meditate with grateful hearts upon Thee, the last Adam. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(245)

The Lord from Heaven

"The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from Heaven." 1 Cor. 15:47.

THE contrast here again is between Adam and Christ. Adam was of the earth. The Lord was from Heaven. The first man was a failure and all men are born in sin and are failures. Therefore, the necessity of a "Man from Heaven." Our eyes are fixed upon Him today—this "Second Man." All men bear the image of the earthy, but to bear the image of the Heavenly, Christ should be their desire. Let us seek by holy fellowship with Him today to reflect His image in this sinful world. *Lord Jesus, help us to walk and talk with Thee today. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(246)

A Quickening Spirit

*"And so it is written * * * the last Adam was made a quickening spirit." 1 Cor. 15:45.*

WE ARE of the earth, earthy, by birth, but we have a new birth. That which was first was natural and earthy; afterwards comes the spiritual. How wonderful is the operation of God in creating in fallen man an eternal life! "He that hath the Son hath life." These mortal bodies shall become, through the power of our Lord as the quickening Spirit, glorious, immortal bodies in which He will dwell throughout the eternal years. What a glorious outlook for us whose eyes are turned heavenward from whence we look for Him. *Oh, Thou quickening Spirit, come quickly! We long to see thee! Amen.*

MONDAY

(247)

The Image of God

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine upon them." 2 Cor. 4:4.

SATAN is the god of this world and the prince of the power of the air. The eyes of every unsaved person have been blinded to the vision of Christ who is the *image of God*. Their minds are on earthly things in which there is no joy, no peace, no satisfaction. Satan hates our Lord with a bitter hatred, and as the days pass and the coming of the Lord draws near, Satan's blinding powers are more and more manifest. This fact should stir our hearts to increased desire and intensified purpose to present to the unsaved, Jesus, the Image of God, who is so precious to us. *Lord Jesus, fill us with Thy Holy Spirit and give us a passion for the blinded souls of the unsaved. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(248)

The Unspeakable Gift

*"Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift."
2 Cor. 9:15.*

PAUL has been praising the Corinthians for their liberal gifts to the saints in Judea. His heart is full and he breaks forth in a note of praise as he thinks of God's greater gift of His Son—"Thanks * * * for the unspeakable Gift." There was no treasure which God could give comparable to the gift of His Son, and "Having given us His Son, will He not with Him freely give us all things?" How could it be possible that the Father would give to sinners the Son of His Love? How we ought to love Him! Is there anything we have or are that we would withhold from Him? *Loving Lord, help us to sense in a new way what it means for us to possess Thee, the unspeakable Gift. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(249)

Christ

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." Ephesians 1:3.

THREE times is the word "bless" used in this verse. God is a blessed God and He showers His blessings upon His people. What are these spiritual blessings in Christ? They are spiritual gifts, the blessings of the Gospel—the "good news" from God. They include the eternal purpose and precious promises of God which are to be manifested now, in the future and throughout eternity. As you read your Bible, note them. How many! How strengthening! How encouraging! How satisfying! How enduring! And all in Christ and only in Him. *How we rejoice, Oh Thou Christ of God, that by faith we are in Thee and all of Thy blessings are for us. Help us to appropriate them with thankful hearts. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(250)

Head Over All Things

"And hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the head over all things to the church." Ephesians 1:22.

THE gift of God to the church—which is His body—was Christ, whom He raised from the dead and seated Him above all principalities and powers and might and dominion and every name which is named both in this world and in that which is to come. We need to recognize our exalted position—bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh—chosen in Him before the world was—dear as the apple of His eye. Let us live in the enjoyment of our great privileges and in the assurance that through the endless ages we shall be His blessed, beloved ones. *Oh, Thou Head of the church, keep us in happy, holy, heavenly fellowship with Thyself this day, and until Thou dost come! Amen.*

FRIDAY

(251)

He That Filleth All in All

"Which is His body, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all." Ephesians 1:23.

THE church is the "fulness of Christ." Christ could never be complete without the church and the church can never be complete until the last member is brought into the body. Therefore, the business of the church is to be busy seeking to save the lost. Every soul added increases His fullness. The life of Christ pulses through His body, the church, and through each individual member. Why, then, are we not filled with Christ? Because we are not yielded to the indwelling Holy Spirit who imparts the life of Christ and who takes the things of Christ and shows them unto us. *Blessed Holy Spirit, give us a passion to know more and more of Him that filleth all in all. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(252)

Our Peace

"For He is our Peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us." Ephesians 2:14.

"HE is our Peace." Thank God, we have everything in Him. In the poor, old world, we have tribulations, trials, disappointments, sorrows of all kinds, but there never will be a time when we may not pillow our heads upon His shoulder and be at peace. Christ has reconciled both Jew and Gentile and the old wall of separation is broken down. He has reconciled men with God. Remember His words that last night with His disciples: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." *Blessed Lord Christ, we look to Thee with glad hearts and pray that the peace of God that passeth understanding, may garrison our souls today. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(253)

*One Lord**"One Lord, one faith, one baptism." Ephesians 4:5.*

THE apostle is stating in this and the succeeding verses a great truth concerning the church. There is a seven-fold unity. One *body*—composed of believers. One *Spirit*—the Holy Spirit who dwells within every believer and unites them together in the common bond. One *hope*—the blessed hope of His coming. One *Lord*—the Lord over all. One *faith*—and that founded on the one Lord. One *baptism*—and that the baptism of the Holy Spirit. One *God and Father* of all—the object of our faith and in whose name all believers are baptized. We are not our own. We were bought with a great price. We are His subjects, under His rule and authority. *Lord Jesus, let us bow to Thee as the one Lord, and with loyal hearts yield to Thy authority. Amen.*

MONDAY

(254)

The Head

"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ."
Ephesians 4:15.

WE HAVE already viewed Christ as the "Head over all things," but here we have Him as the Head of the body of believers—the church. There is inspiration in this thought—that we are to grow up into Him. How are we to do this? We have His life within us. The Head dominates the body and according to the need, the supply is furnished. The new nature demands a supply which cannot come from any other source than the Head. What a wonderful body the church would be, were it always mindful of its Head and responding to His desire for it! *Lord, help us to look unto Thee, Thou great Head of the Church, and as members of Thy body, grow into Thy likeness. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(255)

An Offering

*"And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering."
Ephesians 5:2.*

HEAR Him speaking that last night, "Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends." What an offering for those disciples who deserted Him that very night! He became sin for us. He said, concerning the offering of His life, "I have power to lay it down and power to take it up." No man could take His life without His consent, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God. *Lord Jesus, we recognize Thy offering in our behalf. Help us to walk in love as Thou hast also loved us, and may our fellowship with Thee be sweet this day. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(256)

A Sacrifice to God

*"And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself * * * a sacrifice to God."
Ephesians 5:2.*

GOD's holiness and righteousness demanded some way by which sin could be forgiven and removed, so that sinful men could have access to Him and live in fellowship with Him. There was only one way. Sin—violation of law—must be punished and the sinner must be justified from all things. The law of Moses could not do this. The offerings of the Old Testament could not do it. But God had a way. So "now once in the end of the age hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." "It is finished" were His words on the cross. Through His sacrifice our sins were washed away and rights and titles to Heaven granted us. *Lord, forbid that we should ever hesitate to sacrifice all for Thee! Amen.*

THURSDAY

(257)

A Sweet Smelling Savour

*"And walk in love as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself * * * for a sweet-smelling savour." Ephesians 5:2.*

WHEN Noah came out of the ark he took of every clean beast and of every clean fowl and offered a burnt offering unto the Lord. "And the Lord smelled a sweet savour." When Christ laid down His life on the cross, what a perfume went up to God—the perfume from the sacrifice of His Son! Has the perfume of the cross yet reached you? It reached Heaven. Has the love of God, as manifested in the sacrifice of His Son, mastered you? *Our Father, forgive us that we have been so unmindful of the wonders of Thy love. May its perfume pervade our lives, and through us, the lives of others. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(258)

A Servant

"But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men." Philipians 2:7.

ISAIAH spoke concerning Him: "Behold, my Servant shall deal prudently. He shall be exalted and extolled very high." "His visage was marred more than any man." The meaning of the word "servant" is "a doer" or "a slave." He was God manifest in the flesh, but "He emptied Himself," made Himself of "no reputation." Christ is the second Adam. He is the representative of perfect manhood. As a servant, He humbled Himself. From what lofty heights—Creator of all things down to a servant of men, step by step in service to the whipping post and the cross. What an example for us is He—the Servant! *Oh, Christ our Beloved, help us to follow in Thy footsteps and be in deed and in truth Thy chosen servants. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(259)

The Lord Jesus Christ

"To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse; Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Colossians 1:2.

MASTER! Saviour! Anointed! Here, as in many other places in the epistles, we have a combination of names. "Grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." They are One. Mystery of mysteries! Hundreds of names and titles are given to Him, but after all, He has said, "I and my Father are One. He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father." When he descends from Heaven we will see Him in whom all of these titles are vested. Grace has its fountain in Him, and always in every emergency and under every condition and circumstance, His grace will be sufficient. *Gracious Lord Jesus Christ, manifest Thy grace unto us today. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(260)

His Dear Son

"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son." Colossians 1:13.

To "His dear Son" is here attributed the deliverance and translation of the believer from the power of Satan, the ruler of this dark world. Ignorant of Him, millions are dwelling today, controlled by the power of a Satanic nature, resisting His Word, and doomed to eternal darkness. There is but One who can deliver men. It is *His dear Son*. We are the possessors of this truth and have experienced it. How can we, how dare we, be indifferent to the blinded souls all around us when His dear Son is longing to have them respond to His call, "Come unto Me?" *Oh, Thou beloved Son, make us light-bearers to darkened souls today. Amen.*

MONDAY

(261)

The Image of the Invisible God

"Who is the Image of the Invisible God, the first born of every creature." Colossians 1:15.

IT is difficult for us to refrain from loud acclamation as we view this expression concerning our Lord, the very "Image of the Invisible God!" We look at Him and we see God. We hear His voice and we hear God. We see Him holding the children in His arms, and we see God. We see Him in the home of friends, and we see God. We see Him feeding the multitudes, and we see God. There is but *one* God, and He is the One. "Great is the mystery!" Great is our expectation! Glory to God in the highest! We know Him. We love Him. We wait with longing hearts for Him. *Lord Jesus, in whom dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, we worship Thee! We adore Thee! We look and long for Thee. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(262)

The First Born of Every Creature

"Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature." Colossians 1:15.

"THE first-born of every creature," meaning "of every thing made." So many statements in the Scripture make plain the fact that God and Christ are One. He is the manifestation of God. He unites man and God. The invisible God has become visible to men, in Jesus Christ, He is the Sovereign Lord of creation by primogeniture; the Head of the natural creation and of the new creation, so that He is intimately allied to us. He is the first begotten from the dead. We could write a book about it, but a Book *has* been written. *Blessed Lord, our First-born, to whom we are united forever, help us to glorify Thee today. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(263)

*Creator of All Things**"For by Him were all things created." Colossians 1:16.*

HE IS the Creator of *all* things—visible and invisible! Tarry a moment. Do not allow the magnitude of this revelation to escape you as your eyes are resting upon your loving Lord. Are we not prone to underestimate Him and undervalue His work? See how Paul visualizes it in Ephesians, 3:8, 9: "Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ. And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ." Should we not take a place lower than Paul who counted himself the least of all saints? *Lord, help us. Keep ambition and pride from dominating us. Keep us at Thy feet in worship and praise. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(264)

The Head of the Body

"And He is the head of the body, the church; who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the pre-eminence."

Colossians 1:18.

THE Word of God emphasizes this fact over and over again, and we need to have it emphasized so that we can be always viewing Him in the proper spirit. The church is His Body. We are members of that Body. We are One with Him. What is involved in this? We must recognize our relationship and think of Him always as our Head, and look to Him for wisdom and guidance. We must joyfully seek to walk in fellowship with Him, do His good pleasure and in all things please Him. *Lord Jesus, Thou great Head of the Church, help us to honor Thee this day by lip and life. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(265)

*The Beginning**"Who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead."**Colossians 1:18.*

HE is the Beginning. Who is? The "First-born from the dead." By His resurrection, He inaugurated a new era, the beginning of a new life—eternal life. He is the "first-fruits of them that slept," the Prince of life. He solved the problem forever. He rose from the dead. He conquered death. His resurrection assures the resurrection of the bodies of all those who sleep in Him. The mystery is solved. There can be no end to this eternal life which we have through faith in Him, for it is His life. Let us stop and meditate today upon all that it means. *Thou blessed Lord, who art the beginning of that life in us that is insured forever, help us to tell the story to others. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(266)

*The First-Born from the Dead**"And He is * * * the first-born from the dead; that in all things He might have the pre-eminence."**Colossians 1:18.*

HERE we have the origin of Christ's headship. "He is the first fruits of them that sleep," or "have fallen asleep." He is the Originator of spiritual life, "The Beginning of the new creation of God." He died and was among the dead. Through death, He paid the penalty for sin and was raised for our justification "from among the dead." Others were translated or were raised but died again. He rose to die no more. This resurrection guarantees His headship and insures the resurrection of all believers. He has the pre-eminence in all things. *Our Lord Jesus, we glorify Thy name as the First-Born from the Dead and look forward to the day when we also shall be raised and, with glorified bodies, abide with Thee forever. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(267)

Hope of Glory

*"To whom God would make known what is the riches
of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles;
which is Christ in you the hope of glory."*

Colossians 1:27.

HERE is a revelation not made known in other ages to the sons of men but now revealed by the Holy Spirit to the church. Paul is continually impressing the wonderful truth of God's will as the cause and work of salvation, and the wonderful privilege bestowed upon him of preaching it. This glory which is so wonderful is the garment with which all believers will be clothed when the Christ comes for us. How we should prize the possession of "Christ in us." Do we, and do we long that others might possess it, also? *Lord, give us a hunger for others that they might also be the rich possessors of the Hope of Glory. Amen.*

MONDAY

(268)

Christ our Life

*"When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall
ye also appear with Him in glory." Colossians 3:4.*

HALLELUJAH! What a promise is this: "When He shall appear!" He shall change these bodies of our abasement and fashion them like unto His own glorious body. Our life is in Him, "For me to live is Christ." He could not appear without us. He is preparing a place for us. He is coming for us. The anticipation of this is the great incentive of our life. These mortal bodies will be clothed like unto His glorious body. There can be no condition in life here which can rob us of the joy of this great truth. Let us breathe this atmosphere and look forward to that glorious day of our manifestation. *Our Lord, our Life, we will seek to honor Thee this day and pray that it may be a glad day. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(269)

All and in All

"Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free; but Christ is all and in all." Colossians 3:11.

CHRIST is the Creator of all things. "Without Him was not anything made that was made." He is in all things. In Him we live and move and have our being. He is the beginning and the end of all things. He is the criterion by which all things must be measured. All power is in Him. All dominion, all authority is vested in Him. All distinctions are swept away. There is neither Jew nor Greek, old or young, rich or poor, learned or ignorant, bond or free. He unifies all by His indwelling Holy Spirit. *Lord, help us to recognize this blessed truth, enjoy it, abide in it and so glorify Thee this day. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(270)

The Lord Christ

"Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance; for ye serve the Lord Christ." Colossians 3:24.

WE ARE servants of the Lord Christ. We may never receive what we think we should, or what we hope for, in this world, but we are sure of a proper compensation when God's books are opened, and He will render to every man according to his deeds. Earthly masters will disappoint us; our Heavenly Master—never! No greater privilege was ever accorded to men than that of serving the Lord Christ. Let us seek to keep this in mind day by day. We are heirs to a wonderful inheritance and our portion will be assigned to us. What a joy to be a servant to such a Master! *Lord Christ, may our eyes be upon Thee as we take up the tasks of the day and joyfully serve Thee. Amen*

THURSDAY

(271)

Lord of Peace

*"Now the Lord of peace Himself give you peace
always by all means. The Lord be with you all."
2 Thessalonians 3:16.*

OUR Lord is the Author of peace. He came to make peace possible. "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give unto you." In order to have this wonderful peace we must be yoked up close to Himself. We live in a world of unrest and conflict. The heart of humanity beats high with excitement. "No peace for the wicked!" How we should pity them. They do not know Him. They can never know Him unless He is revealed to them. We are His spokesmen. Let us cheerfully make Him manifest today. *Lord of Peace, we pillow our heads upon Thy bosom. Thy peace passeth understanding. We thank Thee. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(272)

Our Hope

"Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope." 1 Timothy 1:1.

HE IS "our Hope." His promises assure us and fix our faith upon Him. He is the center of the life of a true believer. We could not think of the coming glory without eyes fixed upon Him. The incentive of a loyal life is to please Him. What could be more satisfying after a day of toil and burden-bearing than to remember how His Word was our comfort and His promises our peace? We look at the rising sun as it bathes the mountain peaks with its glory, and at the glittering stars at night and they foretell the coming of the glorious day when He will have us with Himself. *Lord, our Hope, our faith is fixed on Thee. Help us to rest upon Thee this day. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(273)

Christ Jesus

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." 1 Timothy 1:15.

“THE Anointed Saviour” came into the world to save sinners. Where did He come from? He came from the glory. Who was He? He was God, the Creator. “I came forth from the Father and am come into the world,” He says in John 16:28. Sin separates man from God and separates God from man. Sin is opposition to God. Mankind is under the curse of sin and has no power to atone (make a covering) for its sin. God alone could meet the issue and solve the problem and He has. He came and bore man’s sin on the cross and paid the penalty with His own blood. *We bow in Thy presence, Anointed Saviour, and pour out our souls with gratitude to Thee. Help us to live close to Thee today. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(274)

The Mediator

"For there is one God and one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus." 1 Timothy 2:5.

GOD is One and there is but *one* Mediator between God and man and that is a Man; but that Man—praise God—is the man Christ Jesus. “He is the Mediator of the New Testament” for by means of death for the redemption of men He alone is qualified to act in man’s behalf. He loved us. He died for us. Christ is God, but Christ is also the Head of humanity and He alone is capable of filling the position of Mediator. How wonderful He is, and He is all we need. *Blessed Mediator, our Sin-bearer, we open our hearts to Thee as we confess our sins and look with satisfaction upon the blood of Thy atonement. Amen.*

MONDAY

(275)

The Man Christ Jesus

"For there is one God and one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus." 1 Timothy 2:5.

WE HAVE considered Christ as Mediator and now we have the emphasis upon Christ, our Mediator, as the *Man Christ Jesus*. In these days when He is being demeaned by so many who are robbing Him of His Deity, we should rejoice in the privilege offered us of magnifying Him as both man and God. "Great is the mystery of Godliness—God manifest in the flesh." No picture in the Bible is so marvellously thrilling, so calculated to convince and convert, as that of God dying for men. Hold Him in your thoughts and see Him today—arms outstretched above a blood-stained body, saying, "Come unto Me. I will give you rest." *Oh, Thou crucified, risen God-Man, we adore Thee. Guide us today in our worship and work for Thee. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(276)

God Manifest in the Flesh

"And without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness; God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."

1 Timothy 3:16

HERE is a sermon of marvellous mystery. In a few words we have given to us the magnitude of the mission of Christ in leaving the glory and coming to this earth, clothed in the garments of flesh; accomplishing His Divine mission of redemption while in human form; leaving His witnesses to His crucifixion, resurrection and ascension to His high and holy place in glory. We should stand with uncovered heads and with hearts beating in adoration, worship Him as the Holy Spirit of God emphasizes to us this great truth: He came, He died, He lives in us and He lives in the glory, and we will dwell forever with Him. *Holy Spirit, help us to magnify and glorify the God-Man. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(279)

Blessed and Only Potentate

"Which in His times He shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords." 1 Timothy 6:15.

THIS term is used but once in the Bible and means the "All Powerful One." Limitless power is His. It is to be manifested at His appearing who is King of kings and Lord of lords. This will be the final event. Our Lord will reveal Himself and will bring with Him the crowns for the victors who have waged a good warfare and stand ready to receive the promised prize, which none can dispute His authority or right to bestow. Paul is so overcome with this vision that he breaks forth in notes of highest acclaim (read the sixteenth verse). *Oh, Thou Mighty One, we unite with Thy servant Paul and ascribe honor and power unto Thy name. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(280)

The Judge of Quick and Dead

*"I charge thee, therefore, before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead
* * * Preach the Word." 2 Timothy 4:1, 2.*

THE Christian life is a solemnly serious life to live. It is a stewardship, and a day of accounting must come. We must *all* appear before Him to give an account for the deeds done in the body. There is no escape from our responsibility for obedience to the command, "Preach (tell) the Word (of God); be instant in season and out of season." How solemn! Every man's work will be tried by fire of what sort it is. Gold, silver, precious stones; wood, hay stubble! It is for us to decide. No one can change the record—neither God nor man. Are you ready? *Lord Jesus, we look for Thy coming. Help us to do our best today to make Thy will and Thy way known. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(277)

The Righteous Judge

"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day." 2 Timothy 4:8.

IN THE judgment spoken of here there is a promised reward which Paul speaks of as coming to himself and to all those who love the truth concerning the coming of the Lord. They are to be crowned and the Lord will Himself put the crown upon the head of those who are true to His promises and look for Him—a "crown of righteousness." There are many crowns awaiting the saints. Salvation is a *gift*, but crowns are for those whose lives have been lived in obedience to the Word of God. His shed blood should be the appeal to us to be willing to lay down our lives for Him. *Lord Jesus, give us an increasing desire to see Thee and be with Thee. Help us to complete the Body and thus hasten Thy coming. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(278)

The Great God

"Looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Titus 2:13.

FOR whom are we looking? Everywhere it is stated in the Scripture that we are to look for our Lord—for Jesus Christ who died. "This same Jesus shall so come as ye have seen Him go." He will come with His glorified body; with the hands that were pierced; with the wounded side from which the life-blood was poured out; with the scarred brow where the thorns left their marks. The same voice that said, "Behold My hands and My feet. It is I, be not afraid" will welcome us when we meet Him in the air. *Lord Jesus, we wait with expectant hearts, and our voices are tuned for the Hallelujah Chorus as we say, "Come." Amen.*

SUNDAY

(281)

God Our Saviour

"But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared." Titus 3:4.

THIS is not the first time that the title, "God our Saviour" has been used. We find it in 1 Timothy 1:1, where the reference, no doubt, is to the call of Paul as recorded in Acts 13:2. Here it refers to God as our Saviour. Jesus said, "I and My Father are One" and He is our Saviour. When we sing, "Saviour, More Than Life to Me," we recognize the almighty power and authority of God our Saviour. Let us look up to Him today. By our God-given right we have been regenerated and renewed by the Holy Spirit and should exercise our rights as His children. *Let us open wide the door of our hearts to Thee, our God and Saviour, and give Thee the right of way today. Amen.*

MONDAY

(282)

Heir of All Things

"Hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds." Hebrews 1:2.

How logical the Bible is. To our Lord is ascribed glory because He is the Creator of all things. He made the worlds. He says, "All things that the Father hath are Mine." Unlimited power is His. Unlimited possessions are His. We are also His. Praise God, what a revelation we have of Him! He purchased us with His own precious blood. We are dear to Him as the apple of His eye. He will never leave us nor forsake us. We belong to the "Heir of all things." Our needs will be supplied, then, for we are heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ. Let us keep our heads erect and our eyes turned heavenward. *Thou blessed "Heir of all things," take us under Thy wings today and may we be gloriously happy in fellowship with Thee. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(283)

*The Brightness of His Glory**"Who being the brightness of His glory." Hebrews 1:3.*

DO YOU want to visualize the glory of God? Then gaze upon Jesus Christ. When we see Him, we see God, for He is God. Oh, the marvel of the God-head! How wonderful it is! How fascinating is this Bible of ours in which we have such a revelation of God as manifest in the flesh! Moses prayed to God, "I beseech Thee, shew me Thy glory" and the answer was, "I will make all my goodness pass before Thee." With your Bible in hand, meditate upon this revelation of Jesus Christ and rejoice in Him as *your own Lord*. *Father, let the rays of sunshine from the person of Christ, shine in our hearts today. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(284)

*The Express Image of His Person**"Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person." Hebrews 1:3.*

"NO MAN hath seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him." We have seen the Father for we have seen the Son. We have seen Him, a man among men, eating, drinking, living, working with them. When a seal is stamped upon a piece of paper, we have its exact image. When we see Jesus we see the God-Man—a *perfect* representation of God, and we see the *only* God we will ever see. Hold that truth and meditate upon it for awhile, and let the Holy Spirit magnify Christ to you. Thank God, we have seen Him, we know Him, we love Him, we are one with Him. *Lord, let us bask in the sunshine of Thy love today and mould and fashion us more and more in conformity to Thy image. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(285)

The Upholder of All Things

"Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power." Hebrews 1:3.

GOD is Light. Jesus is the radiance of that light. God is the Sun and Jesus is the Sunbeam. The sun and sunshine are co-existent. We see the *sunbeam*, not the sun itself, but the *rays* of the sun. If you break a sun-beam through a prism, you have all the colors. When Jesus was broken on the cross, all of the richness of the glory of God was manifested. He is the express image of the person of God. He is the Upholder of all things. He created all things. He purged all sin. In the hollow of His hand are all things. You can trust all to Him. *Lord Jesus, we thank Thee for Thy finished work. We rest in Thee. Keep us trustful and faithful until Thy coming. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(286)

The Sin Purger

*"Who * * * when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." Hebrews 1:3.*

How lightly we think of sin. It is so common that we fail to view it in God's light. "Coming short of the glory of God" is sin. Sin has never changed because human nature has never changed. Every child born into this world is born with the Adam and Eve nature. There is no exception. One sin makes a sinner and shuts the door to Heaven. Christ came as the Sin-purger and opened the door to Heaven. We need only to tell our fellowmen the story and point them to the open door. "I am the Door," He says. "By *Me*, if *any* man enter in he shall be saved." God help us to tell hungry-hearted men the story. *Oh, Thou Sin-purger, we give unto Thee all the praise and ask for tender hearts in telling the story to sinful men. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(287)

God

*"But unto the Son He saith, Thy Throne, O God, is
for ever and ever." Hebrews 1:8.*

HERE we have the Alpine height in titles for our Lord, "Thy throne, O God!" All other names and titles are inferior to this. When He was born in a manger, God was there. When He worked at the carpenter's trade, God was there at work. When He associated with the fishermen, it was God who was their companion. When He spoke, God spoke. When He died on the cross, it was God Himself who poured out His life. When He comes "with a shout," it will be the voice of God that calls us to be with Him forever. It is God the Son who holds the sceptre and rules the worlds, and we will rule and reign with Him. *Oh, God our Saviour and Coming King, hasten Thy coming, and help us to help Thee hasten that day, for Thine own name's sake. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(288)

The Captain of Our Salvation

*"For it became Him * * * to make the Captain
of their salvation perfect through suffering."
Hebrews 2:10.*

WE CANNOT but bow our heads as we read this verse and meditate upon the Captain of our salvation and His perfection. He was God and He was Man, we have learned. As Man He must be manifest in the life. He is the Son of God, the Captain (or "Author") of salvation. We are the *sons* of God. The mode and method of perfection is manifested by our Leader. He was tempted; so are we. He suffered; so must we. He was persecuted; so must we be. He paid the price; so must we. The climax for Him and for us is glory. *Let us bow our heads and hearts to our Leader today and obey His orders. He will be with us in every trial and suffering. Amen.*

MONDAY

(289)

The Seed of Abraham

*"For verily He took not on Him the nature of angels;
but He took on Him the seed of Abraham."
Hebrews 2:16.*

THIS suggestive title surely draws a picture well worthy our consideration. Why did He not take on Himself the nature of angels? Do not the fallen angels need help? Are they inferior to men? Will they evolve into good angels? No, but those angels who fell, did so in full consciousness of all that it meant. He came to fallen man and took upon Himself the "seed of Abraham" because He longed to lift us to heights above those ever known to angels. *Our Lord, the wonder of Thy work for us astonishes us. Keep us, we pray Thee, from being selfish. Help us to tell the story of Thy love to our fellowmen. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(290)

The Apostle

*"Consider the Apostle and High Priest of our pro-
fession, Christ Jesus." Hebrews 3:1.*

JESUS was an Apostle (or "Sent One"). He was sent with the Gospel (Good News). God sent prophets and angels to bear His messages to men. He sent Moses, the mighty man of God. But now we are looking at the Apostle from Heaven's court itself. He came to bring the most wonderful message ever intended for mortal ears: "God so loved the world!" Why did He so love it, and how was that love manifested? This Apostle did His work and has appointed us, who are believers, to carry it on to fallen men. This Apostle was faithful. Are we? We are His authorized representatives. *Help us to be Thy "sent ones" today, bearing the joyful message of salvation to those who know it not. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(291)

The High Priest

*"Consider * * * the High Priest of our profession,
Christ Jesus." Hebrews 3:1.*

WE ARE called to consider Jesus Christ as High Priest. We are called "holy brethren." We cannot be called upon too often to consider Him as our High Priest seeing that "He ever liveth to make intercession for us." Could we but make it our life habit to, every morning, spend a few moments in contemplation of Him as *our* High Priest, and take up life's duties with that picture before us, seeing Him clothed in the garments of the High Priest, in the Holy of Holies, we would be better believers. *May our eyes be upon Thee today, Thou great High Priest. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(292)

The Builder

*"For this man was counted worthy of more glory
than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the
house hath more honour than the house."
Hebrews 3:3.*

CHRIST is here set forth as "the Builder" or "Establisher" of the house. He is the Apostle. He is the High Priest. The foundation of the house is laid in Him. "Ye are God's building," Paul says in I Cor. 3:9. We are temples of the Holy Spirit now. Christ dwells within us. We are to be built up into a holy temple from which will go forth the voices of millions of the redeemed as they sing the Hallelujah Chorus. Let Christ have His way in fitting us for our appointed places in the Temple of God, for He is the Master Builder and we are to share with Him in the coming day. *Grant unto us, Lord, submission to Thy Holy will in all things this day. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(293)

The Great High Priest

"Seeing, then, that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the Heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession." Hebrews 4:14.

JESUS, the Son of God, is our great High Priest. Where is He? In the glory, at the right hand of the glory of God. What is He there for? To represent us. He carried the blood offering with Him and presented it in the Holy of Holies. He has seated Himself. He is our representative. We can come with boldness to the throne of grace, and will find grace for every need. He is the Son of God with power. Let us hold fast our confession. He loves us. He took our place on the cross. He settled every claim against us. Satan may condemn us, but our great High Priest holds forth His pierced hands and that is enough. *Lord Jesus, while Thou art representing us in the glory yonder, help us to represent Thee here. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(294)

A Priest Forever

"Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec." Hebrews 5:6.

HE is our High Priest, our Great High Priest, and He is also a *Priest forever* after the similitude of Melchisedec (Gen. 14:18-20) that strange character who typified our Lord. Will Christ be our representative throughout eternity? Yes—and *we* will be *His* representatives throughout eternity. For our new life is eternal. Our habitation will be eternal. How it warms our hearts to think of that word "forever" in connection with our relation to Christ! He is our eternal High Priest and we are to be kings and priests in association with Him (Rev. 1:6). We are poor, undone, hell-deserving sinners, but through Him, we are lifted to eternal heights. *Lord, Thou great High Priest, help us to honor Thee by lip and life. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(295)

Author of Eternal Salvation

"And being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him."

Hebrews 5:9.

CHRIST was perfected through suffering. He was obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, and through the hard, cruel, sacrificial journey which He made to the cross—suffering beyond the power of thought to comprehend, He perfected a way by which men could be saved. When He bore our sin on the cross, the unchanging law of God was in operation, and He suffered separation from God. There was but one way by which sinful men could be made righteous, and that was by the Saviour's taking our place, which He did, and now His obedient followers share with Him the glory. *In every time of testing, sorrow or suffering, may we look to Thee, our eternal salvation, and find the promised comfort and help. Amen.*

MONDAY

(296)

The Forerunner

"Whither the Forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus."

Hebrews 6:20.

"OUR hope is fixed on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness." Our hope is an anchor which entereth into that which is beyond the veil, and our Forerunner has entered beyond the veil into the Holy of Holies. Our hope is anchored in Him. How safe it is! How satisfying it is! We are a part of Him. We can never be separated from Him because He lives in us and we shall live and be with Him forever. Let our souls go out in unbounded thanksgiving. *Lord Jesus, our great Forerunner, we rejoice in Thee today. Thou art in the glory. We are looking forward to being with Thee and like Thee. Come quickly and receive us unto Thyself. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(297)

*King of Righteousness**"First being by interpretation, King of righteousness."**Hebrews 7:2.*

THE picture is taken from the story of Melchisedec, the strange king to whom Abram paid tithes (Genesis 14). Christ is King of righteousness, for He is the King of kings. He is *the* Righteous One and the *only* Righteous One. We have no righteousness. All of our righteousness is as filthy rags, but "Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth." We believe in Him, and it is counted unto us for righteousness. His righteousness is put to our account and we are associated with the Righteous King forever. Hallelujah! *Lord, we confess our unworthiness, but we rejoice in Thy finished work and in the gift of Thy righteousness to us. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(298)

*King of Peace**"After that, also, King of Salem, which is King of peace." Hebrews 7:2.*

RIGHTEOUSNESS is the basis of peace. There is no peace for the wicked. "He is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between Jew and Gentile, and hath made of twain one new man, so making peace." Remember what the King of Peace said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." He dwells in us and we dwell in Him. He came and preached peace. He went to the cross and made peace possible. "Great peace have they which love Thy law." *Oh, Thou King of Peace, may Thy peace which passeth all understanding, garrison our souls this day. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(299)

The Surety

"By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament." Hebrews 7:22

SOMETIMES we lack assurance. We tremble, perhaps, and lack confidence in the finished work which our Christ has wrought for us. But we have here the statement that Christ has become our Surety, or Security. We are made confident by the fact that He has placed Himself as our Bondsman. We can draw our drafts upon the Bank of Heaven and He has pledged Himself as our Security. "Whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do." Why have we so little faith in His pledged Word? Giving doth not impoverish Him, nor withholding enrich Him. *Let us honor Him by asking today, in His precious Name, large things for His glory. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(300)

Our Intercessor

"Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Hebrews 7:25.

HE SAVES to the fullest extent for He ever liveth and He ever represents us and meets all the charges against us. "And He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor. Therefore, His arm brought salvation unto Him and His righteousness sustained Him" (Isaiah 59:16). The Holy Spirit also makes intercession for us with "groanings which cannot be uttered." Satan may bring charges against us, and sometimes they may be well founded, but He is there. He bore our sins, carried our sorrows, meets every accusation. What a wonderful Saviour and Intercessor! *Our Lord, we draw near in full assurance of faith. Thou wilt never leave us nor forsake us. We glorify Thy name now and will ever throughout eternity. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(301)

Separate from Sinners

*"For such an high priest became us who is * * * separate from sinners." Hebrews 7:26.*

WE USE this as a title (or attribute) of our Lord because preachers and teachers are drifting so far away from the belief in the Virgin Birth of Our Lord, denying that He was God manifest in the flesh, and lining up with the Unitarian belief. But remember the sin question could only be settled by a *sinless* Man—a *spotless* Lamb. Such was He who *knew* no sin though He *became* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. But, though He was separate from sinners He did not avoid them as we are wont to do. No one ever loved them as He did—the Holy One. We must not miss this suggestion if we are to be like Him, loving sinners and following His example. *Lord Jesus, give us a REAL love for lost souls and a passion for their salvation. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(302)

Higher Than the Heavens

*"For such an High Priest became us * * * who is higher than the Heavens." Hebrews 7:26.*

THIS wonderful High Priest, the spotless Lamb of God, when He had finished His priestly sin-offering, sat down at the right hand of God. Yet we can see Him, the unchangeable Christ, with wounded hands and feet bearing testimony to His individuality and unchanging personality. Some day from the dizzy heights He will descend with a shout. His voice will ring out in glad expectancy. He is coming for you and for me. Wonder of wonders! Our faith in His finished work has sealed us forever to Himself. *Lord, Thou exalted One, we give Thee all praise and wait with glad hearts for Thy coming. Amen.*

MONDAY

(303)

The Minister of the Sanctuary

"A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched and not man."

Hebrews 8:2.

WE ARE carried back to the picture of the Tabernacle and of the Temple where God's High Priest officiated. He represented God in all of the ceremonies of the Holy Assembly. Here we have the promised Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, in the capacity of the Minister (or servant) of the Sanctuary. He is the King, but He is still a Servant of men, serving in our behalf, loving us, ministering to us. Dwelling in our heart by the Holy Spirit, He performs every needed function in the cleansing and preparing of His people for their access to God. *We thank Thee, Lord Jesus, for Thy marvellous ministry in our behalf.*

TUESDAY

(304)

Mediator of a Better Covenant

*"But now * * * He is the Mediator of a Better Covenant." Hebrews 8:6.*

WE HAVE viewed our Lord as "the Minister of the Sanctuary," and He is now termed the "Mediator of a Better Covenant." Aaron was the high priest of the sanctuary of the old covenant, but now Christ in Heaven is the Mediator of a Heavenly covenant—God's agreement to confer blessings upon men. He promises to put His laws into their minds and write them on their hearts and says, "I will be their God and they shall be My people; their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." Let us remember, then, that we are His sanctuary, His temple, and He will perfect His work in and through us. Give way to His will and let our temples be holy unto the Lord. *Help us, Thou great Mediator, to surrender all to Thee. Cleanse us, keep us cleansed that we may offer acceptable worship unto Thee. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(305)

The Testator

"For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator." Hebrews 9:16.

A TESTATOR is a man who makes and leaves a will, or testament, at death. Christ has left a testament and a will. He died for us. He shed His blood as a free-will offering in our behalf. Under the law we were condemned to death. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." "Death passed upon all men in that all have sinned." The sin question is settled forever for us who believe in Jesus Christ, our Testator. He ever lives. He represents us in the presence of the Father. *Lord, we lift our hearts to Thee and rejoice in the finished work and testimony of our Testator. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(306)

He That Shall Come

"For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come and will not tarry." Hebrews 10:36, 37.

THE Christian life is built not only on the present but on the unseen future. Our life is a life of faith, a faith tried and tested and proven; fixed upon the unerring, unbreakable Word of God. God has never broken a promise and He never can. We can bank with unfailing confidence upon His Written and Living Word. Nothing pleases our Lord more than implicit faith in His Word and work. Nothing gives us such rest and joy as does this child-like faith. We must not be moved by the theories or doubts of men. When in doubt, read Hebrews eleven. *Lord, we are looking for Thy coming in the clouds of glory. Come quickly! Amen.*

FRIDAY

(307)

A Rewarder

"But without faith, it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." Hebrews 11:6.

WE COME to God only through Jesus Christ, "No man cometh unto the Father but by Me." And our Lord Jesus Christ is the Judge (John 5:22). "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son." He pronounces the sentence. He gives the reward (Rev. 22:12). "And, behold, I come quickly and my reward is with me." What we do we must do in His name and for His glory (Col. 3:24) "Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance; for ye serve the Lord Christ." We must live for Him and be willing to die for Him. Our reward awaits us. *Lord, we commit ourselves to Thee. Use us this day for Thy glory. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(308)

The Author of Faith

*"Looking unto Jesus, the author * * * of our faith." Hebrews 12:2.*

THE Author (Leader) of our faith is Jesus. Look to Him for the inspiration to faith is found in Him. He is the prophesied and promised "Seed of the woman," bruised by Satan. He paid the penalty and then robbed the grave of its power, rose in the majesty of His glorified body and will come some day to bruise the serpent's head, master and imprison him. He inspires us by His sacrificial death and by His precious promises. His message is "Follow Me. I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." And our response to Him should be, "Lead on; we will follow Thee even unto death." *Oh, Thou great Author of our Faith, keep our eyes fixed on Thee and with unwavering faith may we follow Thee to the end. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(309)

The Finisher of Faith

*"Looking unto Jesus, the * * * Finisher of our faith." Hebrews 12:2.*

HE is the Captain and leads His hosts with the Sword of the Spirit in His hand. And He is the Finisher (Completer) of our faith. Our Lord set us the example of faith and He will perfect it in us. We see Jesus who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despised the shame and is now set down at the right hand of God. He *finished* His work of faith, and by grace He will finish it in our experience. There will be trials, there will be severe testings, but we are to "count it all joy." He did, and day by day and step by step, He leads us on. The best is always before us, though the last link may be the cross—but then, "Face to face with Him!" *Lord, hold us fast by the power of faith until we finish our course. Amen.*

MONDAY

(310)

Mediator of the New Covenant

"And to Jesus, the Mediator of the New Covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel." Hebrews 12:24.

THE Christian life is a strange life, a journey through wilderness experiences, but we always have something better before us. The door posts are sprinkled with blood. We are safe. Old things have passed away. The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth us from *all* sin. The blood speaks of His sacrificial, finished work. Let our eyes rest upon the cross. Let us see the blood. Let us rest under it. Let it separate us from a sinful world and make of us witnesses to its cleansing power, and let us magnify its efficacy to a sin-sick world. *Lord, give us the needed grace to witness today and every day to the efficacy of the atoning blood of the New Covenant. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(311)

*My Helper**"So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my Helper."**Hebrews 13:6.*

WHAT a difference there is in believers! How timid some are. Is it because they do not know the promises? "The fear of man bringeth a snare; but whoso trusteth the Lord shall be safe." "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him and delivereth them." Courage of conviction is the crying need of the Christian today—conviction based on God's Holy Word and God's call to service. He hath said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." Faith takes hold upon this promise and allows nothing to move it. *Lord Jesus, our Helper, help us to lean hard upon Thy gracious promises and have a joyful life today. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(312)

*Jesus Christ the Same**"Jesus Christ, the same, yesterday and today and**forever." Hebrews 13:8.*

"THE Same!" How we love this verse. The world is a sinful, restless world. Uncertainty is written everywhere in human life, but the Living Word and the Written Word are unchangeable. What was He before He was born of the Virgin Mary? He was God. What was He when He lived and labored among men? He was God. What was He when He hung on the Cross? He was God. What is He today? Still God, with the same pierced hands and feet, the same scarred side, the same loving heart—for having loved His own, He loves them still and will love them throughout eternity. Nothing in human thought or language is more wonderful. *Lord Jesus Christ, Thou art the same. Help us to sense it and intensify our love for Thee and may it also be always "the same." Amen.*

THURSDAY

(313)

The Great Shepherd of the Sheep

*"Our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep."
Hebrews 13:20.*

IN THE sixth chapter of Mark we have a touching picture of our Lord Jesus. He had been apart with His disciples in a desert place and, "when He saw much people He was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd, and He began to teach them many things." He was the promised Shepherd. He is here pictured as the Great Shepherd, raised from the dead, sanctified by the blood of the everlasting covenant, which is able to make us "perfect in every good work to do His will" (v. 21). How? By working in us and through us that which pleases Himself. *Lord, we are Thy sheep. Take us, mould us, and make of us that which shall please Thee, and we will give Thee all the glory. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(314)

That Worthy Name

"Do they not blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?" James 2:7.

JAMES is dealing here with the theme of prayer. He urges the saints not to have the faith with respect to persons, and gives them a needed lesson on partiality in our attitude toward men because of their wealth or position. The emphasis is on "The Worthy Name." That Name is sacred, "for there is none other Name * * * whereby we must be saved." "God has given Him a Name which is above every name; that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow" though for some who are compelled to bow, it will be too late. In that Name we approach our Father; in that Name we have our title to the glory land. *Lord Jesus, we come in Thy Worthy Name and ask for forgiveness for our sins of neglect and ask for Thy power for service this day. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(315)

A Lamb Without Blemish or Spot

"But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." 1 Peter 1:19.

OUR familiarity with Scriptural terms often causes us to minimize their meaning. Here we have two words so marvellously wonderful that we are hesitant in our effort to make any comment—"Blood" and "Lamb." How precious the Blood! Millions and millions of drops were poured out through the ages from Abel to Christ and everyone of them said: "The Lamb is not yet. But He will come. We are the testimony of His coming." And finally the Spotless, Pure Lamb of God finished the work of redemption. Is He precious to us? So precious that we would be willing to die in His behalf? If so, let us say to Him, *Oh, Lamb of God, my Saviour, purchased by Thy precious blood, I surrender all to Thee now. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(316)

A Living Stone

*"To whom coming, as unto a Living Stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God and precious."
1 Peter 2:4.*

WORDS are inadequate to describe the mysteries of Heaven. It is not composed of an inert mass like the stones of earth, but of *living, life-imparting* stones. He is living. He will always be living. He lives in the lives of the redeemed. He is the chosen of God. He is the Stone cut out of the mountain which is to crush the nations. He is the One in whom and through whom we have everlasting life. He lives and will live through eternity and we will live in and with Him. Hallelujah! *Dear Lord, our Rock, our Foundation Stone, we rest in the security of Thy eternal life. Manifest that life through us today. Amen.*

MONDAY

(317)

A Chief Corner Stone

*"Behold, I lay in Sion a Chief Corner Stone * * *
and he that believeth on Him shall not be con-
founded." 1 Peter 2:6.*

EVERY structure must have a foundation and those of special honor must have a corner-stone. Christ is the Chief Corner Stone of the most wonderful temple ever conceived. This temple is built of human lives—blood-washed saints of the Living God. It is the dwelling place of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Over the door are inscribed the words, "Holiness unto the Lord." From the dome the chimes ring out the call, "Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His feet." *Oh, Lord, may we be the mouth-pieces to spread the invitation to others to come to the temple for worship. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(318)

An Elect Stone

*"Behold, I lay in Sion a Chief Corner Stone, elect,
* * * " 1 Peter 2:6.*

THE Elect Stone (the "Chosen of God") is the Chief Corner Stone of the Temple of God which is composed of believers who were chosen before the foundation of the world. Nothing ever occurs by chance with God. He saw this Temple before He created the universe. We were chosen in Him, our Lord, and He was chosen in the Council Chamber of Heaven to become the Elect Stone—the One who should be the Head of the Corner. His plans are all working out for the culminating scene when the gathering shall take place at His coming. *When the time comes, Lord Jesus, may we be among those who will bring our sheaves with us. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(319)

A Precious Stone

*"Behold, I lay in Sion a Chief Corner Stone * * * precious." 1 Peter 2:6.*

How precious He is! The more we know about Him the more wonderful He becomes, and the more intimately we know Him the more precious He is. "To whom coming as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God and *precious*." Not precious to the world, for the world has no place, no use for Him; but "unto you who believe He is precious." He is the Creator. He holds the world in the hollow of His hand as a dry leaf and could crush it. But He so loved you and me that He laid aside His royal robe, arrayed Himself in human flesh, and then poured out His precious blood for us. Should He not be precious to us? *Lord, we desire in our hearts to hold Thee PRECIOUS. Holy Spirit, help us. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(320)

A Stone of Stumbling

*"The Stone which the builders disallowed * * * is made * * * a Stone of Stumbling." 1 Peter 2:8.*

A CORNER STONE upon which the whole world was built, upon which the church is built, and a "Stone of Stumbling!" How can that be? To those who wilfully reject Him, as did the Jewish nation, and stumble into the abyss, there is weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. To those who pride themselves upon their education, wealth or position, and refuse to bow at His feet, He is a Stone of Stumbling. How subtle is Satan! How hard is the human heart! How our hearts ache for those who know Him not. *Our Lord, Thou art precious to us. Help us to remove the stumbling blocks by living out a life that shall win some souls to Thee. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(321)

A Rock of Offense

*"The Stone which the builders disallowed * * * is made * * * a Rock of Offense." 1 Peter 2:8.*

THE Jewish nation is an illustration of our theme. Every possible effort was made by Christ to win His own people to Himself. But they would not have Him. What a blow has fallen upon them! Driven from pillar to post, peeled, robbed, persecuted, killed, their desire has been granted. "Let His blood be upon us and upon our children." How will it be in the future? Rev. 6:15, 16. How can it be that our loving, crucified Lord should become to so many a "Rock of Offense" instead of the "Chief Corner Stone?" *Our Lord, keep our feet on the Rock and our hearts loving Thee. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(322)

The Bishop of Souls

"For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls." 1 Peter 2:25.

THE elders of the early church were "overseers"—called to care for the flock as under-shepherds. Here Christ is set before us as the One who directs the under-shepherds. He is *The Bishop*. He is the imparter of life which is eternal, which He purchased for us by His own sacrifice. His eye is upon us. He is the One whose heart goes out in love to the lost, straying sheep and who never fails in His own good way and time to bring them back to the fold (the true church). God help those who selfishly seek and faithlessly serve as under-shepherds. "Seekest thou great things for thyself? Seek them not." *Lord, help us to recognize Thee as our Bishop and be subject to Thy guidance. Hold us. Keep us. Feed us. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(323)

The Just

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust." 1 Peter 3:18.

HOW strong is the contrast here—the *Just* for the *unjust*! Why this sacrifice? That He might bring us to God, making it possible for us to have access through the rent veil to the Holy of Holies. He was the *Just*, the *Sinless One*. "He became obedient unto death" bearing our sins that He might "bring us to God." Sin demands punishment. Jesus kept the law and took our place who were violators of law, setting us free from the penalty and according to us the rights and titles of "just ones." Think of the Cross, the agony, the pain, the shameful death—all for you and me! *Oh, Thou Just One, Thou who hast paid the penalty and the price for our sins, help us to bear Thee in our hearts today. Amen.*

MONDAY

(324)

The Chief Shepherd

*"And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."
1 Peter 5:4.*

CHRIST as our Shepherd has already been considered as the "Door of the Sheep," "The Good Shepherd," "The One Shepherd," "The Great Shepherd," and now we have the climax in "The Chief Shepherd." In Him is vested all authority and power. He will give the rewards to the faithful. His glory is to be shared by us. Our faithfulness to Him here is to be rewarded there. We visualize Him with shepherd staff leading, guiding, directing His sheep, enfolding them in safety. But there is the glad day which is to come when He will crown His loyal ones. Is there anything more to be desired than the privilege accorded us of making Him now the chiefest of ten thousand in our hearts? *Lord, be Thou to us today the Altogether Lovely One. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(325)

The Day Star

*"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; where-
unto ye do well that ye take heed * * * until
* * * the Daystar arise in your hearts."*

2 Peter 1:19.

IN THE Gospel of John, we read: "In Him was life and the life was the Light of men." We have the sure Word of God. It is a lamp to our feet and a light unto our path. Our hearts are darkened by the evil nature within us, but when Jesus comes into our hearts He illumines the Word of God and shines with all the effulgence of His glory. Perpetual day is for those who walk in His light. Every day is a good day and the eternal glory awaits us. *Blessed Lord, our Light, shine in our hearts and lives this day and may we reflect Thy glory. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(326)

Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

*"But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord
and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3:18.*

"GROW in grace!" Thank God, it is possible and it is our bounden duty so to do. "And in the knowledge of—!" Here we pause and face a most remarkable exhortation. The vastness of the suggestion of growing in the "knowledge of the Lord, the Saviour, Jesus and Christ" sets before us a task which will last throughout eternity. Growing into Him—this marvellous One whom we do now know, thank God—is a part of eternal life. How shall we obey this command? Study His Word. It is the Lamp and Light. Search this Word. It is a mine of treasures. Submit to the commandments of the Word. Then will we be wise indeed. *Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, bowing in Thy glorious presence, we submit to Thee. Help us to know and love Thee more and more as the days go by. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(327)

The Word of Life

*"That which * * * our hands have handled,
of the Word of life." 1 John 1:1.*

JOHN 1:1, says: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God; the same was in the beginning with God," and this truth bewilders us; but here we have John saying concerning Him who was God that he had looked upon Him and handled Him. He, Himself, said to doubting Thomas, "Handle Me and see. A spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see Me have." He is the Life-giving Word. The need of a lost world is to know Him. The business of believers is to tell the wonderful story. Paint the picture. Live the life. Sow the seed. And you will find Himself growing into your own life. *"God the Word," how we thank Thee for the revelation of Thyself to us. We are Thine. Thou art ours. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(328)

That Eternal Life

*"That Eternal Life which was with the Father, and was
manifested unto us." 1 John 1:2.*

JOHN says, "We have seen Him who is Life Eternal. We are witnesses to that fact and we want you to have the assurance that your joy may be full." And Paul says, "For in Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." *He is Eternal Life.* He has imparted Eternal Life to us through the channel of faith and the indwelling Holy Spirit certifies to it. Nothing can ever separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. We are God's rich sons. Our treasures are for evermore. "Oh, happy day, that fixed our choice!" *Let us go out and tell it anywhere and everywhere. Oh, Blessed One, our Eternal Life, we wait for Thy coming. Come quickly. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(329)

The Advocate

"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous."

1 John 2:1.

SIN is the existing nature of man. God, in love, has recognized the need of man and has made provision for that need. We sin when we "come short of the glory of God." So Christ becomes our *Advocate* or "One who comes alongside," which is the meaning of "advocate." He comes to stand by us. When Satan charges us with sin, Christ represents us and defends us. He is the Attorney who handles our case. His propitiation (or covering for sin) is manifested in all His work for us—in His life, His death, His resurrection, His ascension and His intercession. *Lord, we thank Thee that Thou dost appear for us and through Thee, we are all accepted by our Heavenly Father. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(330)

Jesus Christ the Righteous

"If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous." 1 John 2:1.

JESUS CHRIST is the Righteous One. "Righteous" means "right" or "just." There never was another perfectly righteous man, for the Scripture says, "There is none righteous; *no not one.*" "All have sinned." No unrighteous man could be our Advocate or Judge. He must Himself be just, and He is, and He is also the Justifier. (Romans 3:20.) What a consolation to us as poor sinners to know that we are justified from all things from which we could not be justified by the law of Moses. *Lord Jesus, we pour out our hearts to Thee. Thou hast settled forever what we could never have settled. Hallelujah! Amen.*

MONDAY

(331)

The Propitiation

"And He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

1 John 2:2.

THE sin question is the great question. Sin separates us from God. His wrath against sin must be appeased, satisfied, and the provision for that satisfaction is in His Son (Romans 3:25): "Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood * * *, through the forbearance of God." Wonderful love of God the Father; wonderful love of Jesus, His Son our Saviour; wonderful love of the Holy Spirit, the One who makes the fact of propitiation clear to us through the Word! How is the "whole world" to know this truth? Someone must go. Will we go? *Oh, Loving Lord, Thy love is wonderful. The price Thou hast paid is wonderful. Help us today to tell out the wonderful story. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(332)

The Son

"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." 1 John 4:14.

THE apostle John is making full proof of his ministry. He is testifying to the truth from his own personal experience, conscious that he is indwelt by the Spirit and has the new nature. He says that the Son was sent for one specific purpose—to be the Saviour of men, lost men. The business of the believer is to testify to that fact. The greatest business in the world is to follow in the footsteps of men like John, the fisher of men. It is not a question of church membership or of worldly possessions, but of knowledge of Him. Have you seen Him? Do you know Him? Then go and testify of Him. *Son of God, Saviour of lost men, send us out with Thy love message today. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(333)

The Saviour of the World

"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." 1 John 4:14.

A LOST and ruined world, bound by the shackles of sin, dominated by the demon Satan, helpless and hopeless! What can be done? Only God, the Sovereign against whom the world has sinned, can solve the question and He has. He sent His Son. We have seen Him by faith and testify to the truth that He is indeed a Saviour. He has saved us through faith in His name and finished work. We *must* testify. We *must* bear witness. Wherever we go, whatever we do, let us tell it out—"He is a world Saviour." *Lord, may we be faithful witnesses to Thy saving power and tell the love story to all. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(334)

The True God

"And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know Him that is true; and we are in Him that is true, even in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the True God, and eternal life." 1 John 5:20.

I N HIS prayer on that last night, Jesus said to the Father: "As Thou hast given Him power over *all flesh* that He should give eternal life to as many as Thou hast given Him; and this is life eternal that they should know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent." Here it is made evident that "we are in Him that is true, even His Son Jesus Christ, the *True God* and eternal life." There is but *one* God. "Great is the mystery of godliness" but we praise God—the *True God*—that we are in Him and He in us. Nothing can ever separate us. *Lord Jesus, Thou who art the True God, help us to live out that great and glorious life that Thou hast imparted to us. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(335)

*Eternal Life**"This is the true God and eternal life." 1 John 5:20.*

JESUS is "the True God" and He is "*Eternal Life*" also. Human life is eternal, for it must be lived here or in another world. It must be spent in the heart of God our Saviour, or in the abode of Satan. "Where will you spend eternity?" is one of the most solemn questions ever asked of men. The only answer is found in God's Word, and it is answered there a hundred times and in a hundred ways. To believers, eternity means life with God our Saviour, and we look forward with joyful anticipation; but to the unsaved, it is a fearful prospect. *Lord, help us in dealing with people to be truthful and loving as we paint the pictures of a future without a Saviour. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(336)

The Son of the Father

"Grace be with you, and mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love." 2 John 3.

HERE is a three-fold blessing bestowed by John: "Grace, mercy and peace from the Son of the Father." This is the testimony of the Father: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased" and He is the *only begotten* of the Father. There is no separation between Father and Son. There is a union which is unbreakable. "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." "I and My Father are One." The blessing is to be bestowed in "truth and love." Truth without love may be cold, hard, harsh. Love without truth may be purely sentimental, but, when combined, they truly represent the message of "the Son of the Father," for the Son is the Truth, manifested in Love. *We pray, our Father, that this benediction of grace, mercy and peace may rest upon us this day as we meditate upon "the Son of the Father." Amen.*

SUNDAY

(337)

Jesus Christ

"Grace be unto you, and peace, from Him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before His throne; and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the Prince of the kings of the earth." Revelation 1:4, 5.

HERE is a four-fold adoration of our Lord. Four titles are given Him, the first of which is "*Jesus Christ.*" (The Anointed Saviour.) "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds to a believer's ear." He is, He was and He is to come! That completes the vision of Himself. The "seven spirits before the Throne" represent the seven-fold operation of the Lord throughout the earth. We must join with the Heavenly host and sing His praises. *Oh, Thou anointed Saviour, help us to unite with all the Heavenly host in glorifying Thy name. Amen.*

MONDAY

(338)

The Faithful Witness

*"Jesus Christ who is the Faithful Witness."
Revelation 1:5.*

THIS was the testimony of Christ Himself when He stood before Pilate (John 18:37): "To this end was I born and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Everyone that is of the truth heareth My voice." This was His mission—to bear faithful witness. This is the obligation of every believer, "Ye shall be witnesses of Me." This is the failure in a large measure of the church. The unsaved are waiting for the testimony by lip and life of professing Christians, and as they behold it, they are convicted by the Holy Spirit. *May the Holy Spirit Himself so control our lives that we shall count it our highest privilege to manifest Him before a gainsaying world. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(339)

*The First Begotten of the Dead**"Jesus Christ, who is * * * the First Begotten of the dead." Revelation 1:5.*

JESUS Christ raised Lazarus from the dead, but He Himself came forth from the grave by His own power. Lazarus died again, but Jesus Christ "ever liveth to make intercession for us." He was the first-born of the dead. He is the forerunner of the saints who shall also be raised from the dead. "But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first-fruits of them that slept." "We know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is." "Who shall change our vile body that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body." *Our Lord, we look and long for Thy coming in Thy glorified body that we may be with Thee and like Thee. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(340)

*The Prince of the Kings of the Earth**"Jesus Christ, who is the * * * Prince of the kings of the earth." Revelation 1:5.*

A GLORIOUS title! Some time in the future there will be a gathering of all the hosts that have ever lived on this earth, and of the hosts of Heaven, and in their presence will stand *One* who will be proclaimed "Prince of the kings of the earth—King of kings and Lord of lords!" The kingdoms of the world are His by right and title, and before Him all must bow. He is Lord of all who exercise authority and King of all who reign. He has not yet asserted His authoritative rights. They are still in abeyance but the day is coming when every sceptre will be broken and every crown laid at His feet. *We praise Thee, Lord of hosts, our Saviour; we will be with Thee then. Help us to do our best to hasten the glad day. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(341)

The Alpha and Omega

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." Revelation 1:8.

“**A** LPHA” is the first letter of the Greek alphabet, and “Omega” is the last. So our Lord is First and Last. He is the Source of all things. He is the Source of all truth, of all the promises given in the Word of God, of all the prophecies, of all commands and of all penalties. How great is our Lord, “which is and which was and which is to come”—the All-inclusive One! Everything is involved in the two words, “beginning” and “ending” and one word includes it all—“is.” *Oh, Thou Jehovah-Elohim, First and Last, who seest and knowest all things, hold us by Thy hand. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(342)

The Almighty

*"I am * * * the Almighty." Revelation 1:8.*

OUR Lord Jesus Christ is the All-sufficient One. Listen to His voice—the “I Am” speaking to us. His voice and message demand attention and obedience. We can trust Him and trust His message. Nothing can fail of all that He says. The Bible is an infallible book. Its message is an infallible message and it says: “I will receive you and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.” (2 Corinthians 6:18). And again, “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” (Psalms 91:1.) What an abiding place for us who are His dear children! *Oh, Thou Almighty One, we submit to Thee today, and to Thine All-power. Help us to dwell with and in Thee. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(343)

The First and the Last

"And He laid His right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the First and the Last."

Revelation 1:17.

HE WAS the First-begotten. He said of Himself, "Before Abraham was, I am." And John the Baptist said, "He was before me." "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God; the same was in the beginning with God." He puts His right hand on us, that hand of power, and says in tenderest tones, "Fear not." He draws us to Himself with that same hand and says, "Pillow your head upon My shoulder. Have no fear. You are Mine. I purchased you at a great price. Perfect love casts out fear." He was *First* in His love for us when we were in sin. He is the *Last One* to forget or forsake us. *Blessed Lord, may we have that perfect love which casteth out all fear. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(344)

He That Liveth

"I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore. Amen." Revelation 1:18.

HE LIVETH and abideth forever. He ever liveth to make intercession for us. In love for us and through grace He died for us. He bowed His head and gave up His Spirit. The bars of death were broken. He tore them away. He is living now and will live to the ages of ages, and He holds the keys of death and hell (or Hades). "He has the keys"—the complete mastery. He has the right to open and shut. Binding and loosing are at His command. The sting of death is sin and the strength of sin is the law, but thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! *Praise be to Thy name, Thou Victor over death! We await Thy coming and the shout from Heaven. Amen.*

MONDAY

(345)

The Morning Star

"And I will give him the Morning Star." Revelation 2:28.

HE WILL give us Himself, for He is the Morning Star. Again, we hear the voice of the Holy Spirit coming with a heart message for the beloved of the Lord. We are bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh. The stars are for the night, and it is night now for this poor old world that lieth in the lap of the Wicked One. It grows darker and darker and midnight is upon us, but our eyes are Heavenward. We hear His promise. As the "Sun of Righteousness" to Israel He brought them blessings; but before the glad day for Israel comes, the Morning Star must shine, and a ray of light will appear for His own Heavenly ones. *Lord, keep us close to Thyself. Keep us loyal. Keep our eyes upon the skies as we labor for Thee and for Thy coming. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(346)

The Hidden Manna

"To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the Hidden Manna." Revelation 2:17.

WHAT is this Hidden Manna? Is it not Himself who is the Bread of Life? The voice of the Holy Spirit is heard speaking to the churches a message for the overcomers. Food awaits them. For twelve thousand and five hundred days manna was rained down from Heaven for the children of Israel. From the glory land our Lord feeds His flock with the Word of God—the Word made flesh. We who feed upon Him shall live forever. We have the white stone and the new name. *Thou art speaking to us, our Lord. We hear. We await the day and the new name which Thou wilt give to us. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(347)

*The Amen**"These things saith the Amen." Revelation 3:14.*

“**A**MEN” is “So be it” or “So it is.” The “Amen” here is our Lord—the Faithful Witness. He has said “Amen” to every truth of the Scripture, but the church has failed to follow in His footsteps. She has the truth for she has Himself, and He is the Way, the Truth and the Life, as we have seen; but she has not said “Amen.” She says, “I am rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing.” She has not been a faithful and true witness. She has been neither cold nor hot, but a lukewarm product. God pity her! To what extent are we responsible? God forgive us. God help us. *Lord, open our eyes to see, our ears to hear and our hearts to believe. Baptize us with the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(348)

*The Faithful and True Witness**"These things saith the * * * Faithful and True Witness." Revelation 3:14.*

WE HAVE viewed Him as the Faithful Witness, but He is also the Faithful and *True* Witness. Is it not wonderful? How marvellously the Holy Spirit emphasizes the character of Christ for us. Here we have the “Amen” amplified. The word “faithful” asserts the truthfulness of “True” for it implies “real and complete.” He had seen that which He attested, and He was competent and willing to faithfully witness. Has the church been a faithful and true witness? No, she has not. Let us come a little closer. Have *we* been faithful and true witnesses? Alas, we must bow our heads with shame as we remember our failure. Will we be? *Oh, Lord our Saviour, forgive us for our faithlessness as witnesses. Anoint us to stand before a lost world and be TRUE at any cost. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(349)

The Beginning of the Creation of God

*"These things saith * * * the Beginning of the
Creation of God." Revelation 3:14.*

THERE are four headships ascribed to our Lord Jesus Christ. First—of the body: "Head over all things to the church, which is His body." (Ephesians 1:22, 23.) Second—of the race: "Ye are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28.) Third—of the creation: "Who is the image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature" (Colossians 1:15.) Fourth—of every man: "But I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ." (1 Corinthians 11:3). Let us seek earnestly to recognize the might and power and authority of our Lord who left Heaven and laid down His life for us. *Oh, Thou Mighty One, Creator of all things, help us to recognize Thee today and to love and serve Thee. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(350)

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah

*"Behold, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, * * *
hath prevailed to open the book and to loose the seals
thereof." Revelation 5:5.*

THE dying prophecy of Jacob was fulfilled in Jesus: "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a law-giver from between His feet until Shiloh come." (Genesis 49:10.) Judah had no conception that nearly three thousand years would pass before his prophecy would or could be fulfilled, or that its fulfillment would involve the glorified Son of God. The characteristics of a lion are manifest in the life and work of the Messiah. He will arrest every opposing force of Satan and establish His universal kingdom. Glory be to God, we will be with Him and like Him in the final overthrow of Satan's kingdom. *Lord, help us to be like Thee now. Help us to wear the armor of warriors and carry the Sword of the Spirit. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(351)

The Root of David

"Weep not; behold the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed." Revelation 5:5.

KING DAVID was the representative of *Royalty*; Moses of the *Law*; Abraham of the *Promises*. Here, Christ is seen in relation to His throne and kingdom rights. "A Root" from the stem, or branch of David (Isaiah 11:1). "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesus was the Root that was to rise and reign over the Gentiles and in Him would the Gentiles trust. He was worthy to open the book because He was slain. What wonders confront us concerning Him! *Lord, we marvel more and more that Thou couldst ever love us and die for us, Thou who art the Mighty One. But we bow at Thy feet in worship and praise. Amen.*

MONDAY

(352)

Holy and True

"How long, O Lord, Holy and True, dost Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth." Revelation 6:10.

THIS is the heart cry of those who suffered death for Jesus' sake because they were true to Him in life and testimony. Is it not such a cry as sometimes bursts forth from our own souls as we see the hellish hatred of Satan for the souls of men? "How long, O Lord, how long, Thou Holy and True One?" But we must abide in faith. He says, "What I do thou knowest not now but thou shalt know hereafter." How marvellous is the grace and patience of God our Saviour! But the day is coming when the Righteous Judge will render His judgment. *Thou Holy and True One, we look to Thee in full assurance of faith. Keep us close to Thyself this day. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(353)

The Lamb in the Midst of the Throne

"For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Revelation 7:17.

HERE is a wonderful picture of our future dwelling place. We are before the throne of God. Our robes have been made white in the blood of the Lamb. We shall not know hunger nor thirst any more. He that sitteth upon the throne will dwell amongst us. He, Himself, shall feed us and we shall drink from the living fountains. Tears will be wiped away forever. What has made all this possible? *One thing—the blood! One Person—the Lamb!* We shall dwell through eternity with Him, be with Him and like Him. *Wonderful Lord and wonderful Love, help us to dwell ever in Thy presence and feed us with the Heavenly manna now. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(354)

The Lamb Slain

"And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship Him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." Revelation 13:8.

JESUS was ordained from the foundation of the world to suffer upon the cross for our sins. The death of Christ has been efficacious to put away sin, from the beginning. The only means of salvation for men has been the shedding of His blood. That was foreknown and foreordained of God. What a place in our hearts should the Lamb of God have! What a place should the blood of Christ have, by which we are redeemed! For "without the shedding of blood there is no remission." *Blessed Lamb of God, we adore Thee. We praise Thy name. We rejoice that we are washed in Thy blood. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(355)

King of Saints

*"Just and true are Thy ways, Thou King of saints."
Revelation 15:3.*

THIS title is better rendered "King of Nations" or "King of the Ages." What a picture is here! We are standing by the glassy sea, mingled with fire. A judgment is awaiting the nations. Seven angels with the seven last plagues are there. Mark seems to describe this time: "For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created, unto this time, neither shall be." (Mark 13:18.) But there are the harps of God and the song of Moses. The song is of victory over the beast and his image. What a day! What joy for our adored Lord! *We want to pledge to Thee, to-day, our loyal devotion, Thou King of Nations. Help us to do Thy Holy will until the coming of "the day." Amen.*

FRIDAY

(356)

Lord of Lords

"For He is Lord of lords, and King of kings; and they that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful." Revelation 17:14.

FROM the story of the Garden of Eden until the scene described in this verse, the powers of earth and hell have fought against our Lord. The prince of this world and the prince of the power of the air has shown his Satanic hatred for Christ, who is the Promised One and who will bruise his head. The world has been the sphere of the conflict of the ages, but, thanks be to God, there is coming a day when that war will cease and that is the day which is portrayed in this verse. All of the kings must bow to Him. It has been an age-long conflict but the end must come. We look forward to the victory which is prophesied. *Thou, who dost hold the worlds in the hollow of Thy hand, hasten the glad, victorious day of Thy coming. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(357)

King of Kings

*"The Lamb shall overcome them; for He is * * **
King of kings." Revelation 17:14.

HE HAS upon His garments and upon His thigh, the name "King of kings." Who has? The One who was born in a manger and who fellowshipped with fishermen as He longs to fellowship with us today. A sharp sword issues from His mouth—the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. As His enemies fell before His presence in the Garden, so fall they then. The power of God's Word is *irresistible*. How foolish are they whose feeble hands are raised up against the King of kings—the Mighty One! What judgment awaits all those who oppose Him and His unerring Word. *King of kings, we bow to Thee. We follow Thee. Help us to fight the good fight of faith. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(358)

Lord God Omnipotent

"And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia; for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth." Revelation 19:6.

HERE is a climax. What words can compare with the words of God which are associated with this matchless scene: "And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in Heaven, saying Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honor and power, unto the Lord our God. * * * Let us be glad and rejoice and give honor to Him; for the marriage of the Lamb is come and His wife hath made herself ready." The time is not far distant. He is coming, the Omnipotent One—and we will be with Him. Alleluia! *Oh, Thou Mighty One, gird us with Thy strength, that we may do our best to hasten that glad day. Amen.*

MONDAY

(359)

*Faithful and True**"And He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True."**Revelation 19:11.*

TO NO one else could this title be applied but the Lord Jesus, who was Himself the Way, the Truth and the Life. He was faithful to the truth always and faithful in its application, whether in promises of blessings or cursing. Listen to the precious promise, "I will come again and receive you unto Myself that where I am, there ye may be also." But the other is equally true, "Depart from Me, ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth." There is no change in Him, the Living Word, and not one jot or tittle can be changed in the Written Word. *Lord, we believe in Thee and in Thy Word. May we never depart from it. Keep us faithful and true to Thee until the long expected call comes and we shall be taken up to be with Thee forever. Amen.*

TUESDAY

(360)

*Word of God**"And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and His name is called The Word of God."**Revelation 19:13.*

HOW can we attempt to embody in a few words what this title demands? John alone uses the term. John says, "without Him was not anything made that was made. * * * and the Word was made flesh." How glad we are that we have heard His Word. We have seen Him by faith. He dwells in us and among us. Clothed in a blood-dipped vesture, He leads the armies of Heaven, including all the saints of the Old and New Testament, to victory. Pity those whose eyes have been closed to the vision of the real Christ and who only have a sentimental conception of Him. *We bow at Thy feet, blessed Word of God, and lift our voices as we sing, "Hallelujah! What a Saviour!" Amen.*

WEDNESDAY

(361)

The Temple

"And I saw no temple therein; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the Temple of it."

Revelation 21:22.

WHAT a wonderful Temple! He is the Temple! The city is four-square, as was the Holy of Holies; twelve thousand furlongs—fifteen hundred square miles! Whatever significance there may be in the dimensions and the structure—whether literal or pictorial—it means, "Great in size; rich in adornment." The city is of pure gold, like clear glass; walls of jasper, upon that sapphire, then chalcedony, emerald, sardonyx, sardius, beryl, topaz, chrysoprasus, jacinth, amethyst; gates of one pearl; streets of gold. We stand in awe, but—glory be to God—we anticipate with increasing joy the vision which awaits us and its full realization. *Blessed One, keep us close to Thee with open ears and open eyes, as we await the realization of our fond anticipation. Amen.*

THURSDAY

(362)

The Light of the City

"And the Lamb is the Light thereof." Revelation 21:23.

THE Lamb is the "Light of the World" and He is also the Light of the Eternal, Four-square City. There is no need of sun or moon for He who created all things, hath provided a Light for the City and it is the glory of His own countenance—the Lamb of God who died upon the cross; the One who bore our sins and washed us in His own blood. By this Light the nations shall walk and in this Light kings and people will pay their tribute. We will be there Hallelujah! *Lamb of God, Light of the World, we bask in the sunshine of Thy love now and will in the light of Thy glory hereafter. Amen.*

FRIDAY

(363)

The Offspring of David

"I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright and morning star." Revelation 22:16.

CHRIST is the Stem which sprang from the root of Jesse, and He is the Offspring of David. God, the Son, created the heavens and the earth and all that are therein, yet He is the Offspring of David, David's Lord and David's Son. He was *born* King of the Jews and *died* King of the Jews and some day He will *reign* King of the Jews. This was God's promise and all of God's promises shall be fulfilled. As the Divine Creator, He is the Root of David's house; as Man, He is the Offspring. He sends His angel to give this testimony to us and to the world. There is no contradiction in God's Word concerning God's Son. *We glorify Thy Word and Thy work, our Lord. We look into Thy face and adore Thee. Amen.*

SATURDAY

(364)

The Bright and Morning Star

*"I Jesus have sent Mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am * * * the Bright and Morning Star." Revelation 22:16.*

WE HAVE meditated upon Christ as the "Day Star" and the "Morning Star," but here He, who is the Light of the World, speaks of Himself as the "Bright and Morning Star." Before the rising of the sun, before the millennium dawns, He will be to the church the "Bright and Morning Star." He will dispel the darkness for us before the prophesied judgments come upon a weary, sin-sick world; and before the glories depicted in this chapter are revealed, He will appear as the Bright and Morning Star. We must never cease to cherish this great truth, keeping our eyes fixed and our hopes centered upon Himself. *Lord, we are looking for the effulgent glory of Thy presence, Thou Bright and Morning Star. Amen.*

SUNDAY

(365)

The Testifier

"He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Even so come, Lord Jesus." Revelation 22:20.

THIS is not a title, nor a name, but a fitting truth with which to close this little volume. We would rejoice if every reader has a heart-felt desire to say "Amen" to this promise of our Lord. The days grow darker for the church and for the world. The signs multiply as we look carefully at the prophecies. The poor old world reels like a drunken man to its doom. Our hearts are sad. We are thinking of those whose future is to be full of woe and anguish. "The Testifier" entreats us to go and testify to the lost. Let us point them to the Lamb of God and plead with sinners to accept Him and with the saints to look for Him. He has left *the Testimony*. And now, in closing, the last verse of this chapter is our heartfelt prayer for our readers, "*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*" *Amen.*

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